Západočeská univerzita v Plzni

Fakulta filozofická

Bakalářská práce

Plzeň 2015   Kristýna Bláhová

Západočeská univerzita v Plzni

Fakulta filozofická

Bakalářská práce

Regional Identity in the United Kingdom

Kristýna Bláhová

Plzeň 2015

Západočeská univerzita v Plzni

Fakulta filozofická

Katedra anglického jazyka a literatury

Studijní program Filologie

Studijní obor Cizí jazyky pro komerční praxi

Kombinace angličtina – francouzština

Bakalářská práce

Regional Identity in the United Kingdom
Kristýna Bláhová

Vedoucí práce:

PhDr. Alice Tihelková, Ph.D.

Katedra anglického jazyka a literatury

Fakulta filozofická Západočeské univerzity v Plzni

Plzeň 2015

Prohlašuji, že jsem práci zpracovala samostatně a použila jen uvedených pramenů a literatury.

Plzeň, duben 2015 ………………………

Table of contents

1.

1. Introduction

The purpose of the thesis is to characterise the core of the regional identity in the United Kingdom and demonstrate how place where people live may influences their life. The topic was chosen on the grounds of author's personal interest in the field of British history. Due to extensiveness of the topic, the bachelor thesis is focused on North-South divide of England which has started to be much discussed since Margaret Thatcher's government although the roots are dated back to the pre-industrial period.

The aim of the bachelor thesis is to show that in the South and in the North there are two distinct societies standing on the different basis, furthermore, to explain spatial determination of people's behaviour and to prove that regional identity is not based only on the history, although it is determined by it. It is a large field including social, economic and geographic studies.

For depicting the nature of the regional identity it is used social geography which can be also called "human geography". This study appearing at the end of ninetieth century was linked with evolutionism and it covers several themes such as economic geography, political geography and cultural geography. It is aimed at interconnection between space and society and, particularly, role of the space in the construction of a society. In other words, the place where people live influenced them as well as they influenced it [1].

The bachelor thesis is concerned with the location of poverty, unemployment, graduates, voting tendencies, migration and life expectancy. It is deals with behaviour of the people, how they are influenced spatially, e.g. the tendency to move to the South until the graduation. The geography has had impact on the process of the construction of the society in the North.

The thesis itself is divided into two parts. The first, theoretical part is subdivided into three chapters. The first chapter deals with the term region and its different meaning in the different context. The second chapter is aimed at identity and its different varieties and possibilities of points of view, especially in British milieu. The third chapter is concerned with socio-cultural overview of the North-South divide, its causes and consequences of the discussed issue. The former and the later chapters are

connected due to factors which are reflecting different varieties of identity, such as sense of belonging in the class structure, Englishness or English accents and dialects.

The other, practical part is subdivided according to key historical events which determined the "North-South" divide particularly in the negative meaning – the differences were growing. As the key historical factors there are pointed out the Industrial Revolution, concept of the Welfare state, years of crisis (seventies) and Thatcherism which is wrongly considered to be the cause. Of course, current situation is deeply influenced by Thatcherism and its consequences are still remarkable.

The bachelor thesis considers the Industrial Revolution to be the beginning point. Moreover the mass concentration of the working class in the North during this period there was cumulated a mass of the working class which had special features in common, such as membership in the Trade Unions and voting for the Labour Party. In this period the international trade was prospered and manufacturing (Britain got the reputation of the "workshop of the world") [2] and mining were booming. The concentration of the working class was the cause of considerable number of problems. Following crisis, changes of policies, and so on only deepened the problem.

Sources used for the purpose of the bachelor thesis contain predominantly the researches of a professor and geographer Danny Dorling presenting in the article *Persistent North-South Divides*. They are quintessential for providing the proof and characteristic of current situation as well as the monograph *Geographies of England* containing six essays. Furthermore, the article *A New Class of Geography* of a social scientist and geographer Doreen Massey is principle in characterisation of Thatcherism. Electronic sources, such as websites of *Office for National Statistics* or *visionofbritain.org.uk* were crucial for obtaining latest or historical data.

2. Defining region

This chapter deals with the term region, defined it from several point of view. Furthermore, the different types of regions in the United Kingdom are discussed. The idea of North-South divide as different regions is proposed.

Although term region has different meaning in different context, in general, region is bounded area with specific features and criteria. It is directly linked with the term identity. As a result, the regional identity may be characterized as strong commitment of local inhabitants to the specific territory within a nation. Regional identity refers to the history, local culture, traditions, habits, dialect, social and economic situation, specific features of nature, landscape and climate. [3] In spite of different meaning in different context, regions can be set:

- Administratively, as an object of strategic planning process.
- Geographically, according to landscape and the climatic conditions.
- Socio-culturally, it is intertwined with economic potential of the area.
- For statistics purposes are also designed by the term region.
- Politically, according to development, promotion and competitiveness.
- Historically, based on the origin settlers of the area. [4], [5]

However, most of the regions in Europe were formed by the long period of changes in settlement, climate, economic situation of inhabitants, culture, traditions and geo-political situation. They are set naturally, after years of evolution. The term region is connected with the term identity. Nevertheless, the meaning of regional identity depends on the context in which term region is used. [6]

The United Kingdom is formed from four main parts Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England that could be also considered a distinctive nation. There are several approaches how to administratively divide the United Kingdom are possible. However, this bachelor thesis follow the structure of Government offices for the Regions (GOR) or simply regions that were established on the basis of complete counties/unitary authorities, for the purpose of better cooperation and economic growth in England in 1994. [7]

On 31 March 2011, the GORs were closed and the focus was shift to local areas. Although they were changed, they are still used for reflecting administrative boundaries and a regional geography for statistical purposes. Proceeding from this structure Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are not subdivided and in this context they are

considered to be regions such as South West, South East, London, East of England, West Midlands, East Midlands, North West, North East and Yorkshire and The Humber. [8]

However, as was mentioned above region is not only geographically determined term and in different context may have different connotation. Taking into consideration slightly controversial idea of "north-south" divide which is highlighted by many socio-geographers such as Danny Dorling, the United Kingdom can be simply divided between the North and the South. Whereas West Midlands, East Midlands, North West, North East and Yorkshire and The Humber with Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland fall into the North and South West, South East, London, East of England fall into the South. The issue of "north-south divide" is indisputable due to facts proving its existence and its impacts on the regions. [9], [10]

3. Defining Identity in British context

The purpose of the chapter is to define the term identity in general and depict nuances in identity in the milieu of the United Kingdom. First of all, the general definition is discussed. Background is provided to the nuances of identity in the context of Great Britain. Subsequently, the term "Britishness" is discussed, its artificiality, its advantages in multicultural society and disadvantages are proposed.

Generally, it is argued that identity is related to human feelings and the people's need to identify themselves with country, culture, history, habits, and nation and so on. Identity is indispensable for human life as it is defined in the following definitions. "Theories of identity have undergone significant changes and reached spectacular proportions. Identity may be defined as a set of personal and behavioural characteristics which define an individual as a member of certain group. Based on race, ethnicity, religion, language and culture, people distinguish themselves from other groups and from their understanding and pride in who they are. However, individuals may possess more than one more cultural identity as a result of considerable geographical and social mobility and their desire for belonging to a particular (social, cultural, and national) community."[11]

As obvious, the meaning of the identity involves a large amount of nuances, particularly, in the context of the United Kingdom. Given the impression of one nation,

Britain, multicultural society is deeply influenced by globalisation, involves broad range of variety of indigenous people as well. [12] Furthermore, Britain can be divided according to several different nuances of identities which are influenced spatially as same as socially. [13]

Firstly, from the imperial and unionist point of view there is only one identity – British. Secondly, from Anglo-Saxon point of view there are English and Celts identities. Thirdly and fourthly, it is determined by the evolution of the settlement of the British Isles, and therefore there are English, Scottish and Irish or English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish identities. Fifthly, there are English, Welsh, Scottish, Ulster unionist and Irish nationalists. Sixthly, there are English, Cornish, Welsh, Scottish, Ulster unionist, and Irish nationalist identities. And seventhly, there are "Southern" or "Real" English, "Northern" English, Cornish, Welsh, Scottish, Ulster unionists, and Irish nationalists' identities. [14]

As a result, this stratification of distinctive nuances in identities cannot be simplified. Despite this fact, the North-South geographical divide disrupts the concept of Britishness, even the vision of homogenous England and alongside the nationalist tendencies of Scotland and Wales; it is a significant feature of the devolution of the United Kingdom. [15]

3.1. Advantage of Britishness

Most British nationals identify themselves as Britons despite identifying themselves with another identity as well. The Scots describes themselves as a Scots as well as Britons. The term "British" became a larger national unit which bring advantages particularly for large number of identities that cover. According to several theories the idea of the United Kingdom was realized to protect Protestant Religion and fortify British Isles against continental influence and power. [16], [17]

Furthermore, according to Scruton, term British is flexible and open to the national idea which offer to the immigrants from the former Empire retain its ethnicity and religious loyalty. "Many of our fellow citizens are 'British Pakistanis', while 'English Pakistani' suggests someone of English descent resident in Pakistan, rather than a Pakistani immigrant to England. Such examples illustrate the flexibility and openness of the national idea, and the way in which local, tribal, religious and ethnic loyalties can be co-opted to an ongoing project of nation-building. The British

experience therefore illustrates the way in which a composite national identity can be forged into a single jurisdiction, while also providing shelter to minorities who may as yet have no national loyalty." [18]

Sometimes it is considered that "Englishness" was substituted for "Britishness". Paxman refers to the lack of using English symbols such a flag with cross of Saint George, the patron of England. The writer and journalist is also well-aware of the anomalous political position of England. However, he alleges that enforcement of English patriotism is not necessary due to English self-confidence. [19]

If the Britain is considered to be inevitable result of juridical process, then Britishness is artificial. It would be wrong to see this process as purely political, since the new state resulted from it and did not produce it. The welfare of England and its world-wide predominance were unifying elements which put together distinctive cultures. Furthermore, one language, press, migration because of labour and thriving trade. However, "Britishness" does not bring only disadvantages and does not cause disappearing of identities. [20]

4.   Socio-cultural overview of North-South divide

This chapter is concerned with the description of the North-South divide and its consequences depending on the formation of a society. The North-South divide might be simplified into the working class and upper class divide. [21] In British context, particularly, in English context the settlement from geographical point of view plays key role today. The United Kingdom is not only divided nationally but also socio-economically. However, this divide is nothing new. It is a question of people's settlement depending on the geographical conditions. Early settlers of the British Isles were farmers and mostly settled lowlands in England. In spite of that, the estuaries of rivers were important from the geopolitical point of view. [22]

Not only growth of nationalism in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland has impact on the uniformity of the state. Even the idea of a homogenous England is a non-existing myth but the core of the North-South has rather socio-economic character than the question of origin. [23] In spite of the presumption of being classless, England still has one of the most diversified societies in Europe. The more the gap between the rich and poor has been deepening the more the ability to move upwards has been falling.

"British people born in poverty are more likely to stay poor than a majority of their European counterparts." [24]

Although there is large amount of classes, they can be easily simplified. The first contains those who "have" and live in the dynamic well-developed South, and the other contains others who "have-not" and live in the depressed North. North-South divide means geographical split of English society. The landscapes of the North and the South were developed differently in the course of the history. The gap existing between the rich and the poor, employed and unemployed, those living in comfortable suburbia and those entrapped in impoverished inner city communities, between mainstream economic of work, wealth and prosperity. [25] In spite of that, a nation could be also divided by others factors based on people's behaviour.

4.1.   Different societies

During nineteenth century, the North was more prosperous than the South. However, the commencement of the Industrial Revolution could be observed since eighteen century. [26] Looking at the map in appendix1 which describes the situation between second half of the 17th century and 1801, it might be noticed that the largest difference in the proportion of population living in cities is situated rather to the north as well as establishment of new cities (see Appendix I). [27]

From the geographical point of view, the proximity to rivers and estuaries was crucial due to transport of manufactured goods. The deposits of raw materials required workers and people slowly migrated to the new towns arising in the north. Additionally, highland character of landscape was slightly suitable for agriculture and therefore people were specialised in mining and manufacturing (see chart n°3 and 4). As a result, those three basic facts forced people to be more concentrated in the cities in the North. In England, there have arisen two different types of societies. The first – industrialised and urban, the other – agricultural and rural. [28], [29]

However, as it is mentioned in Geographies of England, the North has not been a homogenous region. "Thus, as Paxman observes, socially and culturally there has never been a coherent "north country": it exists only in contrast to southern England which is seen as fat, affected and above all "soft". The south country is based on counties, market towns and villages of great age, where any rivalries are long dead. The north of England contains a series of mainly nineteenth-century city states. Manchester and

Liverpool may be only thirty miles apart, but they are quite distinct characters: Manchester Protestant seat of heavy industry, Liverpool a more Catholic dock city, the one and aggressive mill and trading town, the other a gentler, more-cracking port. Manchester has more in common with Leeds or Sheffield, its rivals across the Pennines, and Liverpool with Newcastle, than either has with the other." [30]

The North has been consisted of city regions centred on Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle, Leeds-Bradford, Sheffield, Hull, Middlesbrough, Preston, and Carlisle. In other words, the North has been a world of different "multiple Norths". The geohistorical development of the area depended on the focus of production during the Industrial Revolution. Each city and its surrounding formed their own industrial character and therefore Liverpool and Manchester may be differed from each other even if the proximity between them is exiguous. [31]

To put it more simply, it might be said that the considerable proportion of working class has been residing in the North and middle-class, upper-class and aristocracy has been rather residing in the South. The gap has started to grow, scarcely noticeable at the beginning, deepened with the course of the history and was influenced by several key historical events such as industrialisation, urbanisation, de-industrialisation and Thatcherism.

4.1.1. Working class

Newly emerging industrial cities aiming at manufacturing or mining required a large volume of workers which can be characterised according to certain mutual features. They were predominantly poor, searching better conditions for decent life, hard-working, living in unsanitary conditions and so on. Such concentration gave birth a new class known as working class, settled in industrial cities i.e. predominantly in the North. [32]

Due to different origin of workers predominantly coming from Ireland and Scotland, the working class might be considered "multicultural". The immigrant's concentration caused great cultural or religious differences among cities. Furthermore, the unsanitary living conditions, low wages and general exploiting of workers implied formation of the Trade Unions in the second half of nineteenth century. As a result, the Trade Unions might be considered a socio-cultural product of industrialism. [33]

In the Victorian period, the entertainment of working class was rather specific. There was official concern about social disorganisation; hence the drinking and fighting were widespread, particularly among immigrants. Cock-fighting and bare-knuckle fighting were connected with betting and also were illegal but frequent. In addition, there existed open air prize fights held on 26th December. [34]

In post-war era, the worst elements of poverty in working class were removed by the concept of the Welfare state. Despite gaining affluence in the fifties and sixties working class members preserved their characteristic socially based culture instead of adopting a middle-class life style. There could be found a positive felling to be identified with working-class. [35]

Everyday life in fifties and sixties was depicted in large amount of films and novels. Therefore their themes were set in the smoky, provincial, grey, northern towns, oppressive factories and grim pubs; there was a spirit of optimism reflecting the freedom, consumerism and permissiveness e.g. *Look Back in Anger*, *Room at the Top*, *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* or *A Kind of Loving* and so on. The commencing consumerist mood and enthusiasm in social realism were supported also by the ITV's soap operas such as *Coronation Street*. [36]

Unlike the middle-class which was and still is rather individualistic, the working class was based on the principles of community and solidarity. A typical member of the working class was a man usually without qualification performing either skilled or unskilled manual work. He was a member of trade unions and Labour party voter, lived in a rented terraced house. His wife stayed at home and cared for children, while he was spending his leisure time in a pub, by betting or attending football matches. [37]

However, this working-class "idyll" was hit by the series of crisis leading to massive striking, increase in power of the Trade Unions and transforming the Labour Party to be more socialist. During the eighties, the policy of Thatcherism resulted in enormous unemployment accompanied by other waves of massive striking especially in the Midlands and the North of England. The influence of trade Unions were reduced by anti-unionist laws and the middle-class was in the leading position. [38]

Although the equality should have been established, as was claiming by Margaret Thatcher, the critique of divisiveness of Thatcherism, rigid class system, politically, socially and ethnically divided country, social unrest and riots connected

with high level of unemployment has reflected by films (e.g. *My Beautiful Laundrette*, *Prick Up Your Ears*) and low-budget TV series. [39]

4.1.2. The concept of Englishness

The concept of Englishness is considered to be misleading vision of England. Despite being one of the most urbanised countries in the world, the concept of Englishness proceeds from the presumption that everything good is rural. It represents a vision of rural idyll of thatched cottages situated in a green village somewhere in the South. It could be said that concept of Englishness is a unique project, artificially created by middle and upper class as a counterweight to the dirty, unpalatable, urbanised reality of the working class in the North. [40]

"This has created a unique national image which excludes most of the people, the non-rural. Furthermore this rural idyll has a specific regional setting the thatched cottages and village greens are most definitely not in the north of England. For the latter there is the space myth which Shields has described: excluded England as the 'Land of the working class', industrial, urban, and northern. This was the geographical outcome of the Industrial Revolution being reinterpreted as an historical aberration, quintessentially un-English" [41]

The great irony of Englishness is supported by unattainability for the majority of people, especially those, who lived in the North, a region always hideous and deformed. In other words, Englishness has never been a typical form of national identity due to consisting in class divisions, expressing the exclusivity and being in the favour of upper-class. The concept excludes working parts of England from influence and power and the consequences of the Industrial Revolution are considered to be un-English because they are industrial, urban, and northern. [42]

4.1.3. Role of language

Taking into consideration several variants of identity, the language is one of the most noticeable features and it is interconnected with it. Moreover, concerning the issue of the language the dialects must be mentioned as well. They are mostly present in common speech and even today they serve as a sign of affiliation to social class. [43] The written form is rather rare due to the fact that media and especially press use

Standard English, in spite of that, the written form is preserved in literature, poems and also dictionaries. [44]

As was mentioned above, the identity can be found in several distinctive forms. Considering the basic characteristic of a language or a dialect which is reflecting the world by using of sounds, it is one of the most significant features of affiliation to the specific group of people such as Yorkshire Tykes, Tyneside Geordies, Liverpudlian Scoursers, West midland Brummies, Cockney or Estuary English. [45]

The boundary between language and dialect is uncertain and fluent due to differences in sounds, vocabulary, grammar and intonation. Speakers of dialects pronounce differently vowels and diphthongs, use specific words or modes of expression. With term dialect, it must be also mentioned term accent. Nonetheless, in spoken language accent is involved in the dialect, some authors e.g. Jason Jones point out between these two terms. Yet, the oldest sense of the word dialect refers to "manner of speaking" which signifies that pronunciation is inseparable. [46]

The definition noted in *Language, Society and Power* determines the extensiveness of the term dialect: "People use a regional variety because they live in a region or have once lived in that region. Similarly, people use a social variety because of their affiliation with a social group. These varieties are relatively permanent for the language user. At the same time, we should be aware that many people can communicate in more than one regional or social variety and can therefore (consciously or unconsciously) switch varieties according to the situation. And of course people move to other regions or change their social affiliations, and may then adopt a new regional or social variety." [47] As it is quoted, it must be distinguished between regional dialect and social dialect which refers to how others perceive an individual, his status within a social group. [48]

Moreover, social dialect is not bounded and is mainly influenced by education. Some of them also correlate with age and sex but the rate of education is determining due to the fact that much of the variation lacks specific linguistic features belonging to the group. Usage of the nonstandard regional dialect is removing by the schooling where dialect speakers are tended to speak in school form of the language. [49]

This fact is used in literature for distinguishing social classes. The Received Standard English, form of codified correct English used by government agencies, the press, the Court, institutions and taught in the school system at all levels, is still a

"mark" of prestige and high social status. It reflects social status such as Queen, Prime minister, judge, doctor, and lawyer can be connoted with money and the lifestyle. With RSE is connected so called Queen's English or BBC English which bring the most prestigious accent being known as RP (Received Pronunciation). [50]

The use of dialect in literature has already appeared in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales for illustrating the differences between social status and origin of the characters. Furthermore, use of dialect brings the illusion of authenticity. It was used by many other authors such as William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, J.B. Shaw etc. and this trend continues today. [51]

Despite being unifying element for other nations, language and particularly its accents are highly related to the class structure. In England, social and the economic advancement of the people depend on how they sound. [52]

5. North-South divide

In this part of the bachelor thesis the theme of the north-south divide of England will be shown from several points of view. The main idea is to show how the place of living can influence life, in other words, the impact of geographical location on the society living in this area. First, the problem occurred throughout the course of the history will be presented. Although its roots of it run deep into history, the gap between the North and the South became prominent particularly with the Industrial revolution due to changes of society as a whole and living style that it delivered. The Industrial revolution is considered to be a beginning point and used data are mostly dated back to 1841. Furthermore, these chapters are aimed at the key historical events such as interwar period, post-war period, the concept of the welfare state, crisis in seventies, policy of Margaret Thatcher and, naturally, the current situation.

For better understanding of the issue discussed, it is necessary to define the North-South dividing line. The dividing line is not clear and sharp; however, according to detailed information on life chances, political views, health and wealth; it can be defined where the line is located. It runs throughout the old counties of Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire; more precisely the North lies above Forest Dean on the north bank of the Severn, west and mid Worcestershire, Redditch, Bromsgrove, Meriden, Coventry, South and North East, Warwickshire North, Nuneaton, Bosworth, Loughborough, Rushcliffe, Newark, Bassetlaw, Brigg and Goole, Scunthorpe, Cleethorpes, ending at Great Grimsby and the south bank of the Humber (see Appendix II). [53]

## 5.1. The Industrial revolution

This chapter deals with the course of the Industrial revolution, its impact on society, and remarkable difference between the North and the South of England.

The Industrial revolution, a great deal of social changes, took place in 18th and 19th century. Mostly rural and agrarian society had been slowly formed into the industrial and urban society by the technical development of mechanization. In addition to London, the industrial zones have lied in the northern part of Britain due to natural conditions and natural variety suitable rather for mining or manufacturing than for agriculture. Therefore enormous development is ascribed to the Industrial revolution, Ellis Wasson comments that the number of men working in industry was 40 per cent

until 1750 and in Lancashire and Yorkshire it meant two-third of the population before the factory boom. [54]

At the beginning, the key role was played by the textile industry with its development of spinning jenny, spinning mule and power loom. Excluding London, the manufacturing was concentrated mainly in the north and midlands. A relatively small group of districts in the North had over 50 per cent of their workforce in manufacturing. The specialisation in one dominant industry is a characteristic feature of the northern towns like Blackburn and Oldham, with over 70 per cent in textile manufacturing. For example, the pottery was concentrated in Stoke on Trent, (representing 62 per cent of the manufacturing) and the shoe-making was centralised in Leicester (56 per cent). (see Appendix III - Manufacturing) [55]

Easington in Durham could be considered as an extreme proof of the rapid development. In 1841, approximately 26 per cent of workers were employed in mining. Nevertheless, in 1881 the number was almost twice as high, i.e. 48 per cent. The improvement of the furnace fuelled by the coke instead of charcoal brought development in the iron industry and caused the changes in mining which were at that time dominated by lead and tin, predominantly mined in Pennines. The coal became indispensable due to further progress and development of steam engine, particularly, after Henry Bessemer's crucial invention of the cheap mass production of iron and steel were crucial. Fifty per cent of the workforce were employed in mining in the districts by 1881 (see Appendix IV - Mining). The following chart n°1 [56] shows the rapid increase of the coal mining. In addition, in 1800, 10 million tonnes were mined which is five times more than in continental Europe. [57]
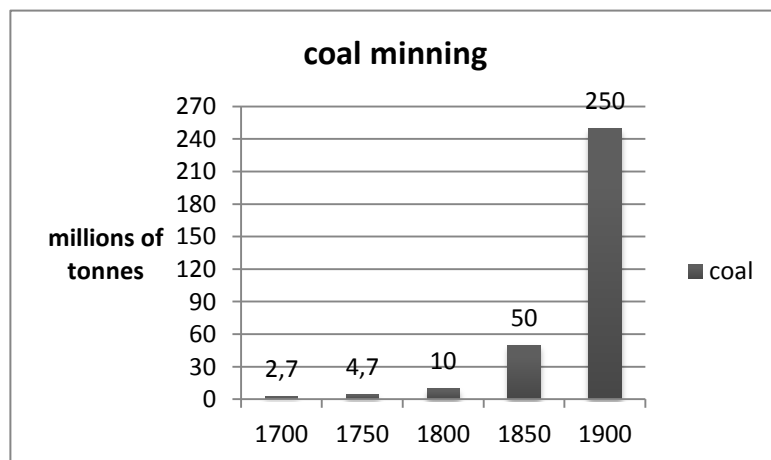
5.1. Chart n°1 coal mining

Furthermore, the system of transportation, communication (e.g. invention of the telegraph in 1837) and banking (e.g. in 1770 stock exchange in London, Rothchild or Baring's bank) had to be improved in order to growth of financiers, factory owners, volume of deliveries of raw materials, large variety of manufactured goods, etc. The locations near to the rivers or canals were important due to the transportation of the goods and ores by boats. Horse-drawn wagons represent another means of transport. The first railway locomotive was constructed at the beginning of the 19th century. In addition, about six thousand miles of railroad track were in Britain in the half of the 19th century. [58], [59]

This change went hand in hand with the change of lifestyle. Mass production was ruining small craftsmen and more and more people came to the cities in expectation of better life conditions – higher incomes and better nourishment. During this period North's share of England's population grew, and peaked by 1911 at 36 per cent. In other words, the population grew from 2.1 million in 1801 to 12.3 million by 1911. [60] (see chart n°2)
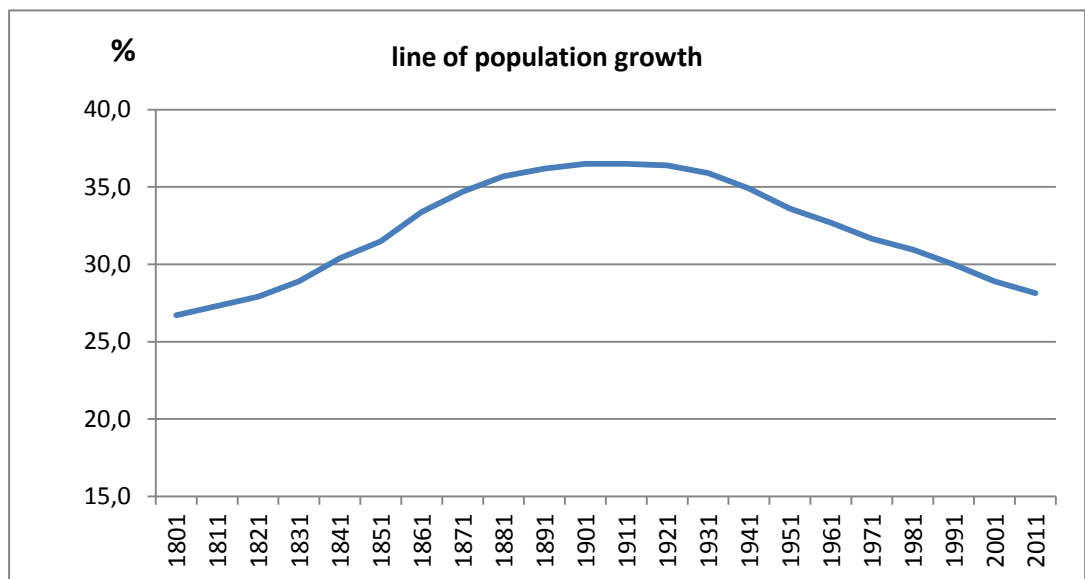

5.1. Chart n°2 Population growth [60]

Nonetheless, the workers had to live in unsanitary conditions. The housing was usually owned by the coal owner who could evict them in the case of complaint or fight for better conditions. Yet, the life standard of merchants, bankers, lawyers, etc. increased and they have become wealthy middle-class without title of nobility. [61] The gap between the middle class and the working class, living in shanty towns, became

deeper. The wages in factories were insufficient and working children were nothing exceptional. In 1860, one-fifth of workers in textile industry were younger than fifteen years old. [62]

To sum up, the best demonstration of the difference between the South and the North could be presented by two following charts (n°3 and n°4) containing data from 1841 to 1911. The first chart shows the concentration of people employed in mining, constructing and manufacturing, which is almost twice high in the North than in the South. The other is aimed at agriculture. These two charts prove the difference in specialisation of the northern and southern workforce.
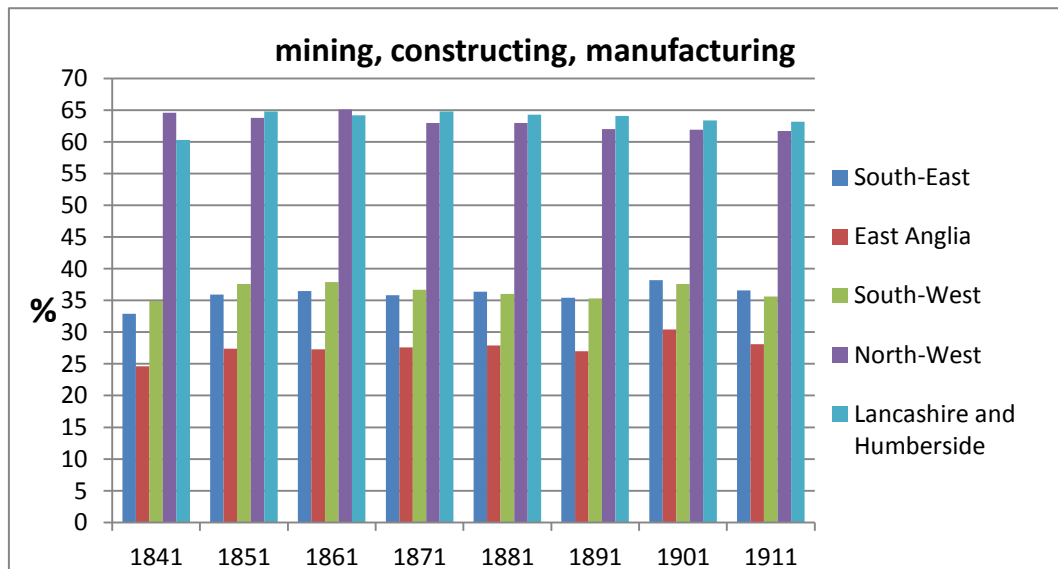
5.1. chart n°3 Mining, Constructing, Manufacturing [63]
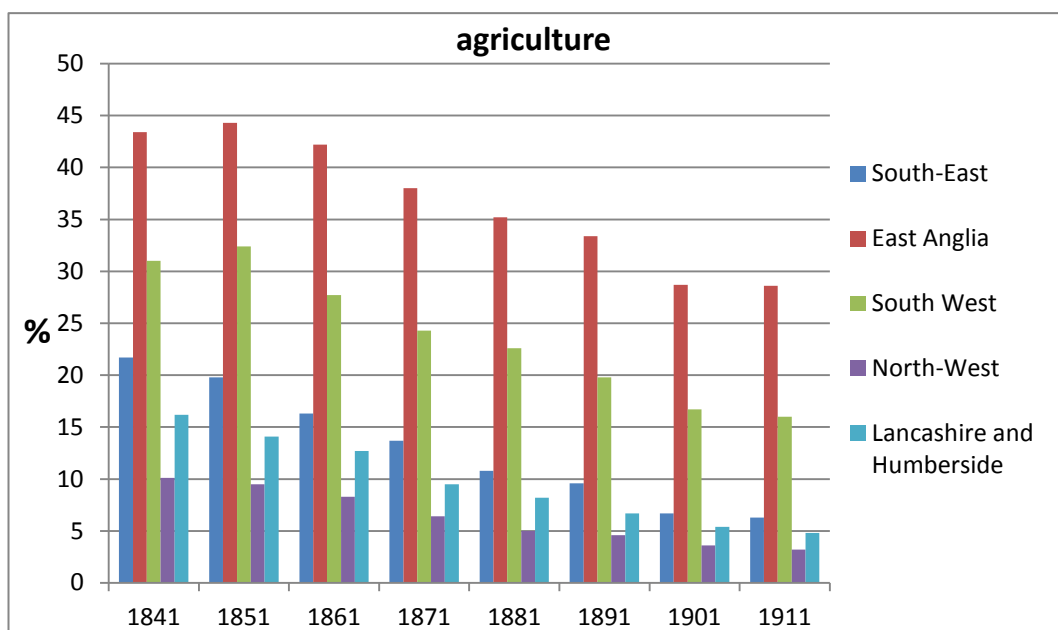
5.1. chart n°4 agriculture [64]

16

5.2. Concept of the welfare state

In this chapter the interwar and the post-war periods are discussed. It is aimed at differences between the North and the South which were marginalized in twenties and thirties. In solution to this issue, the welfare state was conceived.

One of the most interesting features about the interwar period and also of the forties was how exiguous the difference there was. Danny Dorling provides two simple explanations. Firstly, there was a lack of information to demonstrate the growth of the divide until 1940's. Secondly, there was a certain degree of inability to identify such a national ill due to the interwar situation and the growing nationalist tendencies. In other words, the signs of the North-South divide were recognised late but not least because they were used as key arguments in implementation of social-welfare policy in forties, fifties and sixties. [65]

Therefore, the industry culminated before World War I when Britain used its geographical position allowing capitalizing on worldwide trading connections and access to the natural resources not only in Britain but also in British colonies. The trend to concentrate the manufacturing in northern area continued until 1931. Yet, in 1931, the industry was in decay; moreover, mining districts like Lancashire and Staffordshire started to be exhausted and new pits were found in the East Midlands and in the north of Dover. To put it more simply, the distribution was replaced to the south. Furthermore, new industrial centres based on consumer goods were formed in the south. [66]

According to Danny Dorling's study, the north-south divide can be characterised by 3 major themes in this period: health, unemployment and rate of the workers ranked among the lowest social class. [67]

The following chart (n°5) presents data of infant mortality per 100 live birth published in 1928. The chart compares data between ten worst areas and ten best areas. It must be noticed that all of the worst areas are in the North and all of the best area belongs to the South. [68]

infant mortality in 1928
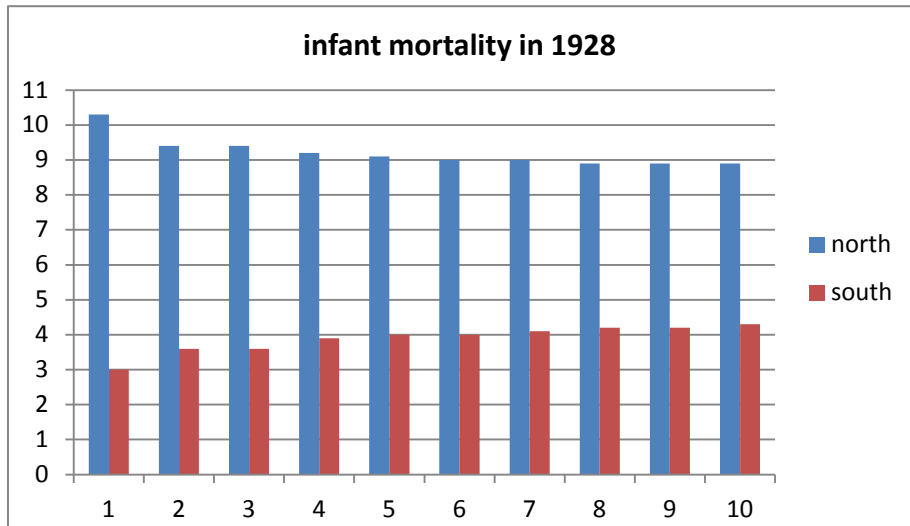
5.2. chart n°5 infant mortality

The charts n°6 and n°7 show the employment of workers ranking among the lowest social class and also the unemployment in 1931. In the chart n°6, there are compared ten worst and best areas, whereas all of the ten worst areas (with the highest rate of unemployment) are situated in the North. However, in the ten best areas (with the lowest rate), two areas situated in North can be found; the others are in the South. The chart n°7 confirms the existence of the North-South divide due to geographical spread of people working in the lowest social class. The ten areas with the highest rate of workers ranking among the lowest class are in the North and the areas with the lowest rate are in the South. [69]

rate of workers ranking among thelowest social class in 1931
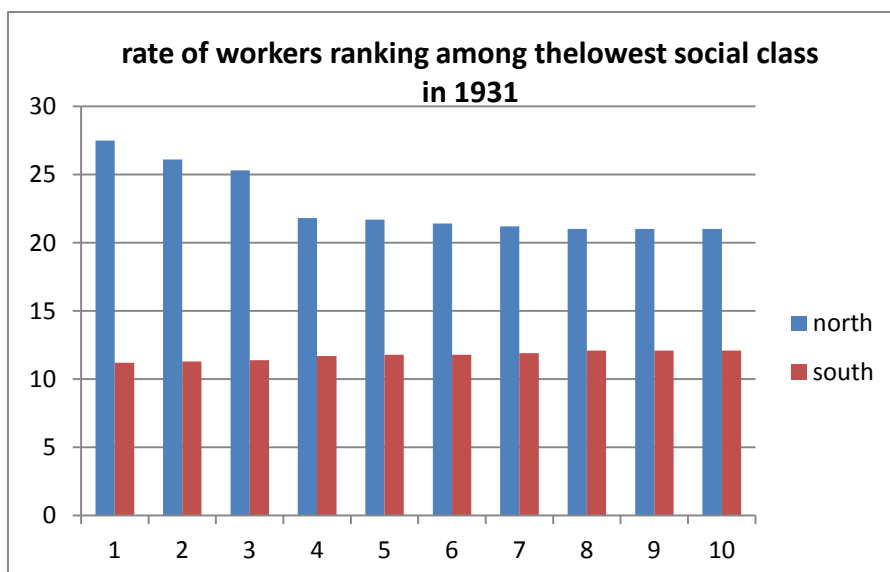
5.2. chart n°6 Rate of the workers ranking among the lowest class [70]

unemployment rate in 1931
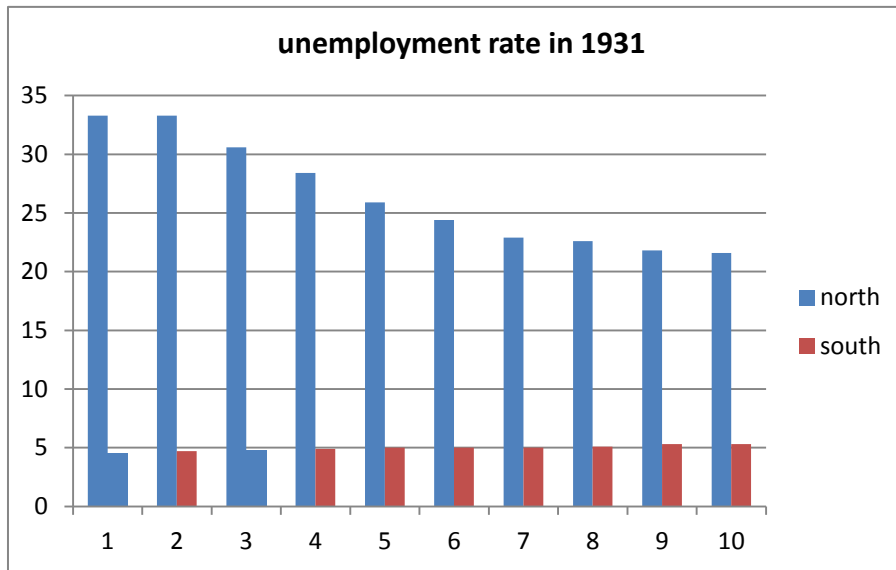
5.2. chart n°7 unemployment [71]

The era of world wars was dominated by unemployment and several attempts to find a solution. In 1942, William Beveridge proposed a concept of social benefits becoming later a basic plan on a new society. The health and unemployment insurance, benefits for pregnant women, widows and so on were crucial. Thus, Beveridge he proposed security "from cradle to the grave." Nowadays, the insurance principle is considered to be a basic element of a welfare state. Despite the government's hostility to this conception, changes were needed and important legislature considering Beveridge's conception had been created before the end of the war. The idea of welfare led to several changes and new approach was needed mainly in post-war rebuilding. [72]

For example in 1944, the Butler Act reformed schooling and government's commitment to full employment. In 1945, the Family Allowance Act including child benefits was passed. In 1946, National Insurance Act was passed. In order to prevent retired from being poor, the Insurance benefits had to be increased because they did not cover the spending for decent life during fifties and sixties. In 1948, hospitals were put under the state control and ownership, all the Britons gained privilege to free health care and it was authorised in National Health Act. Universal health care leading to more fair and human society caused considerable number of problems and how to finance NHS increasingly became a key political issue. [73]

The post-war period could be characterised as a period of nationalization. In 1946 the Bank of England was put under the state control. Declining industry was saved

by putting it under the state control. The state had major share in factories and mills and shareholders were paid off. In 1946, air transport was nationalized followed by energy, railways, sewage system, bus transport and cargo, and in 1947 coal industry, as well. [74]

Although this attitude tended to be regarded suspiciously, productivity increased between 1945 and 1973, and was supported by a general boom in global economy. By the adoption of the Keynesian welfare state model the differences between the North and the South were slightly removed. British economy grew faster than at any previous time in its history until 1973. [75]

5.3. Years of crisis

In this chapter, the dramatic economic situation characteristic for seventies will be discussed. If the deindustrialisation has been noticed since World War I, in seventies and particularly after 1973, its decay has become unsustainable.

At the beginning of seventies, inflation reached 13 per cent in average. However, in 1975, it reached more than 24 per cent. [76] The growing power of the trade unions, in combination with weak government and poor control, led to chronic crisis. Not only the dramatic shift away towards information economy, conceptual labour and services jobs based in the South, but also expensiveness of manufacturing, meant decline in male manual work. [77]

In chart n°8 the employment of the workers ranking among the lowest social class is noted. The rendered data show that the highest rate of these workers is concentrated in the North and London borough. It might be understood as a sign of deindustrialisation of the North and the beginning of centralisation of workforce in London. However, London and particularly its industrial boroughs suffered from deindustrialisation as same as northern cities such as Manchester. [78] The typical example of deindustrialisation and subsequent transformation of a London borough is Slough.

> "Slough, whose population grew from 20.285 in 1921 to 52.590 in 1939, is a classic example. In 1881 it was a rural area, with 13 per cent of its workers in manufacturing, but by 1971 this was 53 per cent making the subsequent decline to 16 per cent in 2001 striking evidence of Britain's de-industrialisation. That decline has not brought poverty to Slough! In modern Britain, the most

prosperous areas contain few factories, but this does not mean they are not involved in the manufacture of goods. Instead, they have become centres of management, marketing and research for goods which are physically manufactured somewhere else. That 'somewhere else' may well be outside Britain altogether, maybe in the booming industries of eastern China. If it is in Britain, it will probably be somewhere where the labour is cheaper." [79]
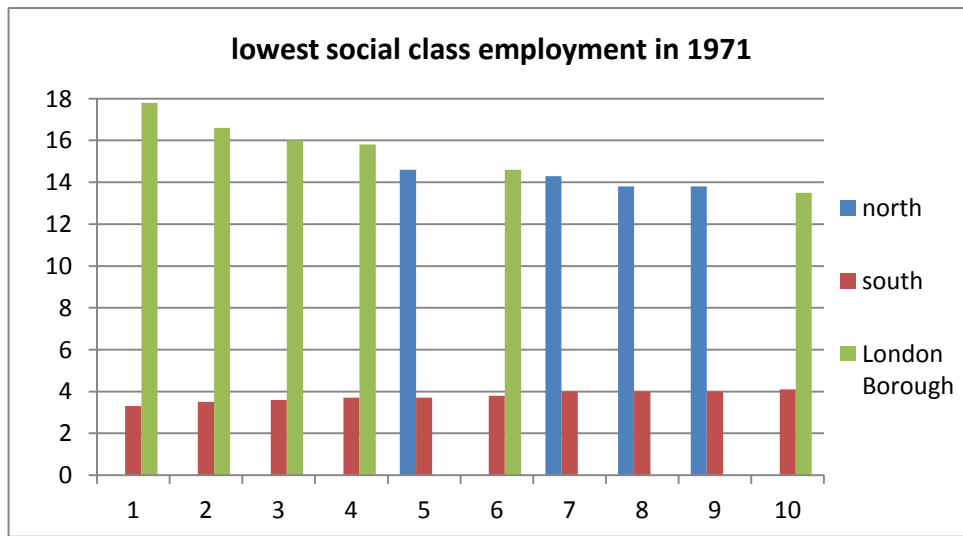

5.3. chart n°8 rate of workers ranking among the lowest social class in 1971 [80]

Considering the occupation in the service in the South, in London, 58 per cent Westminster's workers and 56 per cent of Kensington, Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham were employed in services. Excluding London data, 54 per cent of Cheltenham's workers and 51 per cent of Brighton's were employed there, as well. [81]

In order to its reliance on personal contact with a customer, particularly, in case of banking, business or tourism, service sector as same as manufacturing or agriculture is connected to the region (see Appendix V - Services). For Britain and even more for modern Britain is typical different economic base of regions. While in the South the regions were and are mostly based in service sector including government spending, military service, the Civil Service and financial sector concentrating around London, in the North the regions were based on manufacturing and mining although their downturn dates back to the end of World War I. [82]

Ten areas with the highest and the lowest rate of unemployment are noted, the concentration to London is evident. (see chart n°9)

unemployment in 1971
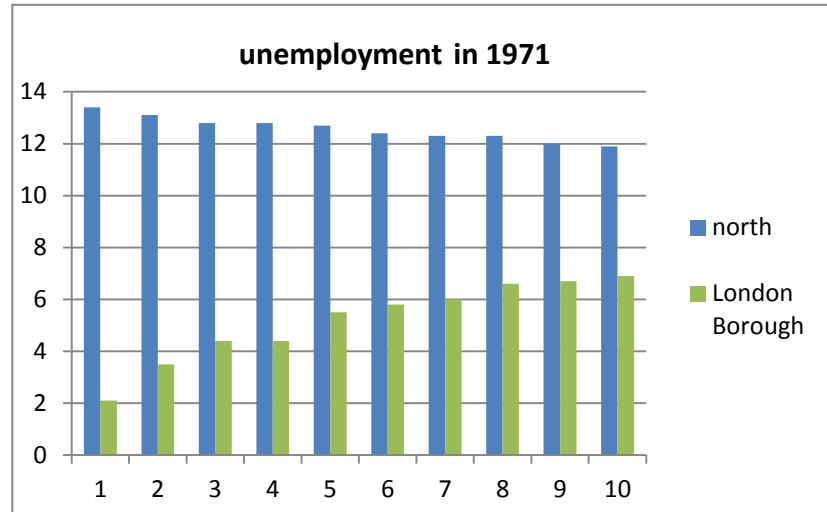
5.3. chart n°9 unemployment in 1971 [83]

From the economic perspective this kind of difference has not been so remarkable until 1967 when inflation rate increased due to series of energy crises caused by problems in the Arab-Israeli conflict and result in imposing of embargo by Arab oil producers in 1973. Moreover, in 1972 devaluation of pound brought dramatic rise in prices. The different regional economic bases started to have a crucial impact on the area. Then slowly deindustrialization got steep incline also because of increasing price of crude from $3 per barrel to $12. Price of crude rose by 1974. This strengthening idea of being self-sufficient and turn to the renewable resources of energy such as solar or wind energy, but the idea was overshadowed by the discover of oil in the North Sea in The Forties field in 1970 which was brought into production in 1975. In 1977, Britain lost 10 million working days and in the following year the GNP was two times lower than in France or Japan. [84]

Barring several crisis and governments' vain attempts to rescue industrial productivity which was continuously deteriorating (in 1976 the industrial productivity was lower than in 1973, over 1 million labour workers were unemployed which is over 5 per cent of the workforce the biggest unemployment rate from the end of the war) and was solved by the loan reaching 4 billion dollars from the International Monetary Fund, the decade of seventies brought rapid dissolution of the class structures and cultural identities sustained by the traditions and institutions of industrial capitalism. [85]

Moreover, Ronald L. Martin understands the problem of deindustrialisation in culture-class context. In his essay "The contemporary debate over the North-South

divide" comments that "British society, it is argued, has entered a new period of post-industrial modernisation in which 'de-industrialisation' and the 'dis-embedding' of social life from its local contexts are rendering class and culture much more reflexive and fluid. Culture itself has become commodified, and consumption in turn a major sociocultural marker: we are what we consume rather than we do for a living. [...] It is tempting to argue that the net result of the accelerating shift to a hyperconsumerist, post-industrial society has become to erase the historical class structure and class geographies of the country." [86] Ellis Watson describes this situation as hatred between the poor and the rich which almost led in the "policy of envy".[87]

5.4.   From Thatcherism to current situation

5.4.1. Thatcherism

This chapter deals with the impact of Margaret Thatcher's policy on current situation, provides background to the current situation due to long-term effects of Thatcherism. This chapter proceeds from Doreen Massey's analysis "A New Class of Geography" published in 1988.

In 1979, Conservatives won the election and Margret Thatcher was appointed to be prime minister. The period of her "presidency" [88] is highly discussed even today. Not only sociologists or socio-geographers blame her for deepening the gap between North and South. She was convinced that welfare state is evil and must be replaced by unlimited capitalism. She referred to Victorian values, believed in free market, and pressed for principles of minimal state. Dennis Kavanagh, British political analyst, characterises her ruling style as divisive. [89]

"Rather than being a single nation project, Thatcherism was more divisive "two nation" one, favouring the rich over the poor, services over manufacturing, and the commercial and financial economy of the South over the industrial economy of the North. It was also a "two nation" project in the sense that it was intended to "rid the country of socialism", as Mrs Thatcher put it: the abolition in 1986 of the Labour-controlled metropolitan authorities (most of which were in the North) was part of that assault. [...] But Thatcherism itself has to be seen as part of a more fundamental and profound transformation at work in the British socio-economy during the last quarter of the twentieth century." [90]

In 1979 Britain was undermined by several series of strikes, crises and unsuccessful attempt to find a solution. Membership in the trade unions reached record level 55 per cent of labour workers higher than in USA, Germany or France. Strikes were very common – Ted Heath emergency law allowed intervening by the help of military forces. Working week was shortened to 3 days and the power supply was regularly interrupted. Trade unions dictated their demand and Labour Party were getting more and more socialistic. [91]

The government transferred from state ownership industries such as British Telecom British Airways British Petroleum, British Gas, British Coal and British Rail. Denationalisation proceeded mainly through sale of shares. The aim was to deregulate the economy, cut off restrictions on business and the non-profitable factories and mills and let them operate freely and competitively. It might be said that Thatcherism tried to force northern cities to compete and acted like those in the South; however, it caused further decay. [92]

However, denationalisation and free market have also had some positive impact.. The denationalisation concerned the state dwellings and in 1990 two thirds of people lived in their own. In 1986 the deregulation of securities exchange gave rise to increase of foreign investment. [93]

Non-profitable factories which were not able to compete were closed. Thatcherism, in fact, supported de-industrialisation process because it slowed down the economy. The manufacturing was transferred to Asia. This step caused further increase in unemployment from 5.7 per cent in 1979 to 7.4 percent in 1980. For following years the unemployment rate were rising up to 13 per cent in 1983 and did not fall under 10 per cent until the end of her ruling. Number of labourers had fallen a quarter and number of unskilled labourers had fallen a half during eighties. She was disposed to paid retraining of workers; the changing of carrier was easy according to her. She did not take in to consideration culture, community, geography or age. [94]

According to Doreen Massey's analysis from 1988, Margaret Thatcher is responsible for growing gap between north and south. She comments that Thatcher's policy is too centralised to London due to fact that London and South East most conform her ideology.

"Mrs Thatcher with the inner city policy is thus seizing a moment. The combination of a bit of property development is just what she needs to break down what

she sees as the dangerous oppositional bases in the cities and claim economic success for her inner city policy. Cities are potentially at a moment of change. She is making sure it happens on her terms for 'her' people." [94] Moreover, she mentioned a new structure of the society – the two thirds: one-third society, society of super-rich and underclass. [95]

In addition, she comments that effects are not only social or economic. According to her, government used the South against the North. If northern regions acted like those in the south, they would have jobs and growth. In order to have a job, some northern manual workers lived in temporary houses in the south and went back home only at the weekend. The negative impact of London-centralised policy is supported by the example of manual worker's lifestyle. "Yet other cases people do move from the north and south to fill the jobs, but being unable to pay the housing costs in the south they work only on a weekly or short-contract basis. This is now an increasingly common phenomenon among skilled manual workers, particularly in sectors such as construction. While working they live in temporary accommodation, sometimes even in caravans. At weekends, or at the end of the contract, they go back home. The disruptive effects on personal and social life are obvious." [96]

The City was priority of Thatcherism. During eighties the City strengthened its position of international trading centre due to its propitious position between Tokyo, Hong Kong and New York. Over 20 per cent of the employees were working in banking, insurance or finance. [97], [98]

5.4.2. Current situation

In this chapter the current problems and its outputs will be discussed. The causes of north-south divide will be present.

Not surprisingly, the idea of "north-south divide" is slightly controversial. There is dispute whether the north-south divide is not only simplified and mainly based on stereotypes which does not exist anymore due to fact that working class mainly concentrating in the north fell down with deindustrialisation. Today, only middle class should be in Britain. [99] However, there could be found several indicators showing that it exists. Geographer Danny Dorling, in his essay "Persistent North-South divides", comments on several indicators such as life expectancy, education, poverty employment and wealth. Additionally, he is in arrangement with Doreen Massey and comments that

the distance of London is important. also the official report from Office for National Statistics adds that excluding London the gap would slightly differ between rates of the North and South. [100], [101], [102]

According to data released on 4th November 2014 by Office for National Statistics, the North still underperforms on several economic and social indicators such as economic output, jobs and household income. Between 1997 and 2012 it experienced slower economic growth and tendency to depopulation (see chart n°2 in chapter 5). The share of 27.9 per cent of population was last seen in 1821. [103]

For better demonstrating current north south divide in the context of this bachelor thesis, following indicators are:

- Life expectancy
- Education
- (Un)employment
- Migration of people non-born in the United Kingdom
- Poverty
- Voting patterns

### 5.4.2.1. Life expectancy

Life expectancy is one of the most discussed indicators. Its causes are something like a myth. Because it is not quite clear how this is related to de-industrialisation. The table in the Appendix VI provides that people living in the north are destined to live at least two years less than those in the South. For example, the people living in Cambridge have life expectancy 79.5 years in average, however, people living in Liverpool only 75.7 years in average. In addition, data of Offices for National Statistics reported happiness rating is slightly lower than the rest of England 7.3 per cent. [104]

This may have several reasons including social problems connected with urban areas. The urban areas suffer from deteriorating of property, overcrowding households, social segregation, racial discrimination (e.g. Brixton), and high level of stress due to poverty and family breakdowns. Industrialization has also brought environmental problems lasting today such as pollution of air and local watercourses. [105], [106]

5.4.2.2. Education

According to data one-third of students are drawn to go to university. However, their moving tendency is more interesting. As it could be seen in chart n°10, students tend to move to North for obtaining a degree and return to the South upon graduation. The explanation is simple, in order to reduce expenses on education, young people tend to go northward due to lower prices of households, however, and then they move southward for getting a job. [107]

As a result, high concentration of people with a degree is not only in Cambridge or Oxford but also in Reading (26 per cent), London (30 per cent), Brighton (29 per cent) and Bristol (23 per cent) (for more information see appendix n°10) [108]

migration according to age
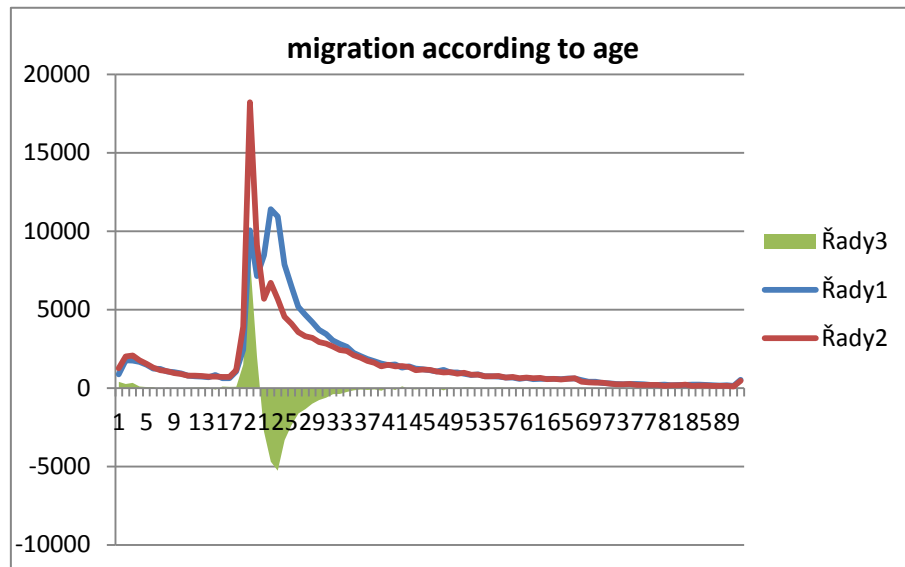
5.4.3.1.Chart n°10 Migration according to age [109]

5.4.2.3. (Un)employment

Unemployment or employment indicators are most common for presentation north-south divide. Along with poverty rate, unemployment is ranked among economic problems of inner cities. These two indicators are connected with de-industrialized urban zones which are predominantly in the North. There are eight of ten largest cities, 65 per cent of northern population live in five Combined Authorities. As it could be seen in two following charts n°11 and 12 percentage of unemployed is higher during the whole period from1992 and 2013. [110], [111]

Unemployment rates (16+)
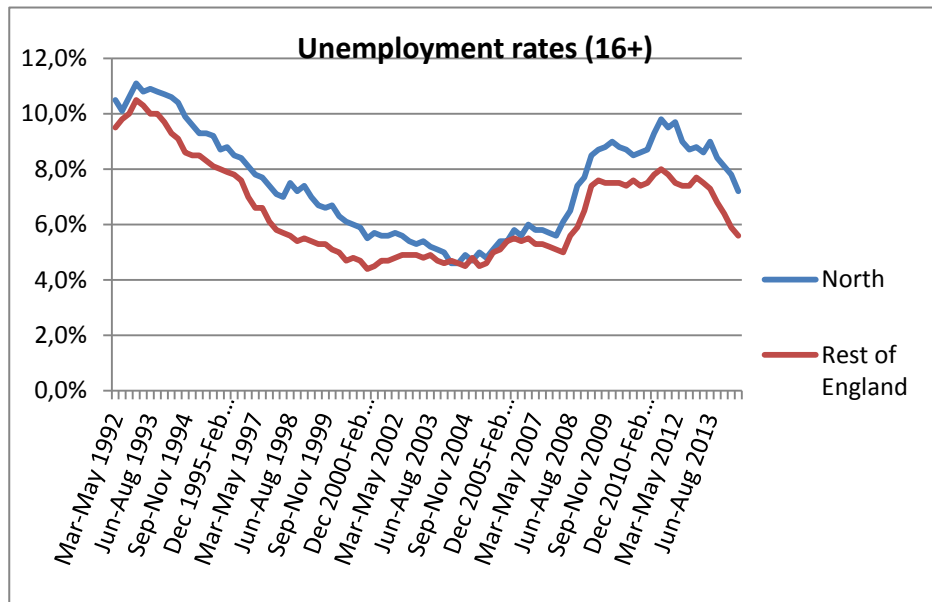
5.4.3.3 chart n°11unemployment [112]

Employment rates (16-64)
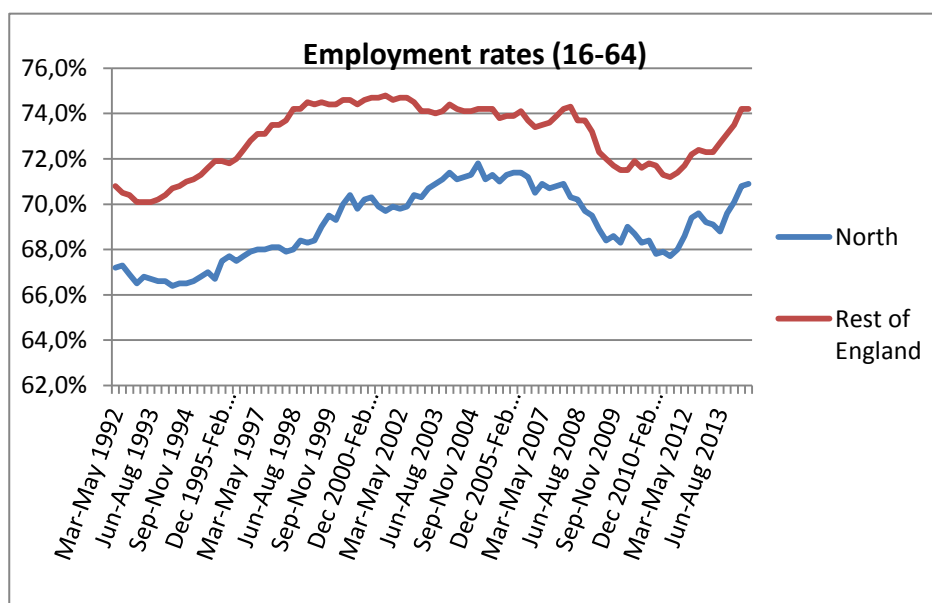
5.4.3.3.chart n °12 employment [113]

5.4.2.4. Immigration of people non-born in the United Kingdom

Due to fact that the employment situation in the North is worse than in the South, the immigration rather low. The chart n° 13 shows that only 4 per cent of northern residents were non-UK born and arrived between 2001 and 2011. Additionally, the largest proportion of immigrants is in London and the difference between the North and South is slightly considerable. [114]

population non-born in UK

North
South
London
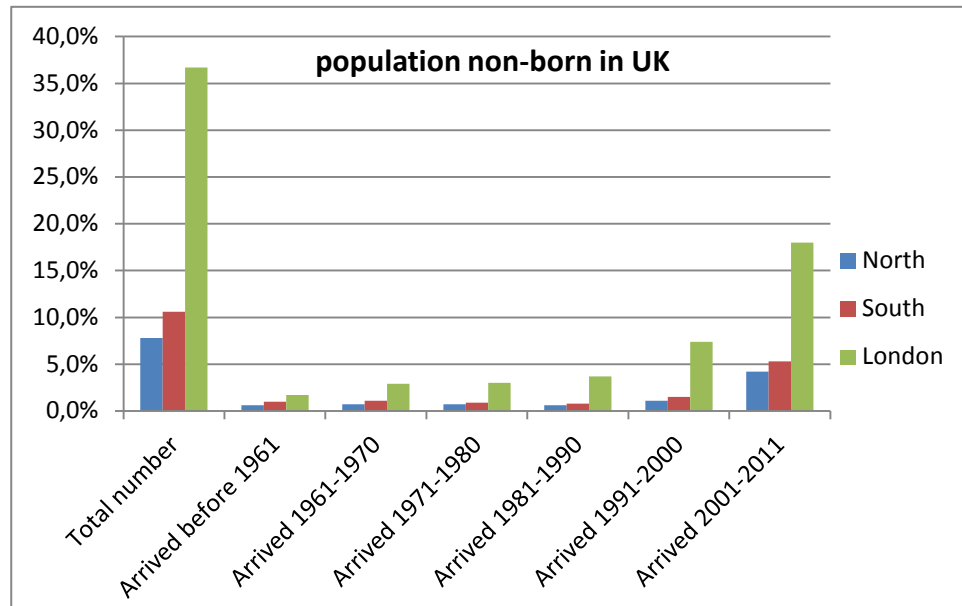
5.4.3.4.chart n°13 [115]

5.4.2.5. Poverty

As was mentioned above unemployment rates and poverty rates brought inner cities. However, these two rates are not the same. While poverty rate in London reached 33 per cent the percentage of people living on Income support or Job seekers allowance 10.3 per cent. [116]

Poverty rate means proportion of the population living below 60 per cent of the medium national income. [117] There is a simple explanation for this. The inner city is typically a zone with older housing and declining industry. The population living there comprises mostly students, ethnic minorities and single parent families. Governments have been constantly trying to redevelop inner cities areas. Some of them were successful such as those in Docklands or Manchester's Salford Quays, e.g. in Stoke on Trent, there is a project trying to stop the decay of former industrial zones and terraced houses sold for a pound. [118]

According to Ellis Wasson, the capitalism is harsh on the poor and the laws mostly protect the interests of the rich. [119] The growing difference between the rich and the poor is a real threat which may led to the "class segregation" [120] The research led by Daniel Dorling proves that the impact of the place of living is crucial, especially during the infancy.

- "An average child in the wealthiest 10% of neighbourhoods can expect to inherit at least 40 times as much wealth as a typical child in the poorest 10%
- In some areas, 16-to-24-year-olds are 50 times more likely to attend an elite university than in others
- In the most impoverished parts of the country young adults in this age group are almost 20 times more likely not to be in education, employment or training than those in the wealthiest neighbourhoods
- There are no large neighbourhoods where under-five-year-olds from the highest social class, spend time with any other class of children other than the one just beneath them" [121] [122]

5.4.2.6. Voting patterns

The existence of Trade unions and social structure is reflected in voting patterns as well. Again, it dates back to industrialization when working class was concentrated mainly in the north.

On the one hand, there was a northern semi-skilled or unskilled worker tended to vote for Labour Party due to fact that policy of Labour party was aimed at ameliorating their working and living conditions and stood on the principle of solidarity. One the other hand, a southern middle-class blue collar or white-collar worker was more disposed to vote Conservative due to his owner-occupation. [123]

In nineties, the Labour Party has been shifted away from the principle of solidarity and has become more centrist, non-prioritizing working-class interests. In spite of that, there has been sort of commitment to vote for Labour Party continuing until today. [124] (see Appendix VIII)

On the one hand, these indicators did not answer the crucial question why the North is falling behind the South. On the other hand, they negate the contention of simplification or generalization of the North-South divide. They confirm its existence. Moreover, Ronald L. Martin provides three key factors that influence competitiveness and development of region and in which the answer could be found.

- Capitalism is a process of permanent using and exploiting spatial differences for obtaining more profits and by this it remoulds a geographically socioeconomic landscape.

- Once established particular pattern, it tends to be cumulative and persistent, it is something which is "path dependence". Success tends to breed success.
- Capitalist evolution is naturally episodic and the periodic phases or rounds of changes and development can be identified. It is not only connected with new technologies industries or methods of production but also with social regulations, class divisions or institutional arrangements. [125]

As a result, it can be deduced from these three key factors that the North currently finds itself in decline resulting from the effects of the capitalist market; on the contrary, the South is on the upswing. It could be said that the North experienced his dynamic period in 19th century and now it is in depression, whereas the South is experiencing a period of dynamic growth today due to the shift to services.

6. Conclusion

As it is stated in the Introduction, the aim of the bachelor thesis is to describe, explain and reflect regional identity in the United Kingdom throughout by using historical key factors and indicators. Considering the complexity of the regional identity, the topic has been focusing on current issue lasting from mid-1980 – the "North-South" divide.

The aim of the bachelor thesis is to prove that key historical events were only factors that deepen the gap between the North and South. The crucial issue consists in the proportion of people living in the cities due to highland character of the northern landscape which is slightly suitable for agriculture. Furthermore, the subsequent problem which was brought by urbanisation (such as crime, poverty, depopulation of the inner cities, pollution and so on) is concentrated predominantly in the North. (Eight out of ten largest cities are situated in the North, 60 per cent of the northern population living in there the 5 combined authorities)

The Industrial Revolution is comprehended as the crucial beginning point. During this period there were cumulated large amount of semi-skilled or unskilled workers depending on the work in the manufacture or in a pit. These workers formed great basis of working class, which had some typical features and customs in common such as bare-knucle fighting. Although the Industrial Revolution brought economic boom, workers lived in unsanitary living conditions and poverty was considerable problem reflected also by literature such as Dickens's *Oliver Twist.*

On the one hand, after the wars, the concept of the more supportive Welfare State rendered working class a better life. It was the period of consumerism, pub-going, attending football matches and positive sense of belonging to the working class. The growing power of the working class, especially of the Trade Unions led to the waves of strikes and riots during the crises caused by Arab-oil crisis. On the other hand, the private sector services, and especially business services, which were dominated by the middle and the upper class, were and still are overwhelmingly concentrated in the South.

On the historical background of the North-South divide, Thatcherism was another important milestone. Although the restrictive monetary policies of Thatcherism had considerable impact on the deepening the gap between the rich and the poor, the

middle class and the working class, the North and the South, this bachelor thesis rather inclined to Massey's and Dorling's claim that the proximity to London particularly influenced the issue. If the centre of the service sector remains overwhelmingly concentrated in London, the divide will not disappeared.

For better depicting the North-South divide throughout the history, the bachelor thesis uses charts and maps based on the published data on the website Vision of Britain managed by University of Portsmouth data. To verify the statements describing the current situation it was predominantly worked with data released by the Office for National Statistics.

7. Endnotes

1. *Human geography* [online]
2. *Vision of Britain* [online]
3. Scruton, R. *England and the Need for Nations*, p 27.
4. Oakland, J. *British Civilization: An Introduction*, p. 23
5. *Office for national statistics* [online]
6. *Regional Planning and the Mobilization of Regional Identity From Bounded Spaces to Relational Complexity* [online]
7. *Office for national statistics* [online]
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Dorling, D. *Persistent North-South divides*, p. 12
11. Mišterová, I.; Skopečková E. *A search for identity*, p. 5.
12. Taylor, P. J. *Which Britain? Which England? Which North?* p. 128
13. Dorling, D. op.cit., p.12
14. Taylor, P.J. op.cit., p.128
15. Oakland, J. op.cit., p. 15
16. Wasson, E. *Dějiny moderní Británie*, p. 47
17. Scruton, R. op.cit., p.5
18. Ibid., p. 39
19. Paxman, J. *The English. A Portrait of a People*, p. 88
20. Scruton, R. op.cit., p. 39
21. Taylor, op.cit., p. 129
22. Davies, N. p. 173
23. Taylor, op.cit., p.130
24. Tihelková, *The Changing Structure of Contemporary British Society*, p.52
25. Martin, R. L. *Contemporary debate over the North-South divide*, p.16
26. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 115
27. Langton, J. *South, North and nation*, p.120
28. Wasson, E. op.cit., 116
29. *Vision of Britain* [online]
30. Martin, R. L. op.cit., p.35
31. Ibid.
32. Wasson, E. op.cit., 125
33. Christopher, D. *British culture an introduction*, p. 300
34. Ibid., p. 121
35. Tihelková op.cit., p. 56
36. Christopher, D. P. *British cultural: An Introduction*, p. 151
37. Tihelková op.cit., p. 56
38. Wasson, E. op.cit., 125
39. Christopher, D. P. op.cit., p. 136
40. Taylor, P.J. op.cit., p.135
41. Ibid.

42. Ibid., p. 129

43. Thornborrow, J. *Language and identity*, p. 165

44. Ibid.

45. Martin, R. L. op.cit., p. 36

46. Jones J. *Language and class,* p. 134

47. Thornborrow, J.op.cit., p. 165

48. Ibid.

49. Jones, J. op.cit., p.135

50. Ibid.

51. Ibid., p. 138.

52. Storry, M. *British cultural identities*, p. 40

53. Dorling, D. op.cit., p. 24

54. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 115

55. *Vision of Britain* [online]

56. *History Learning Site* [online]

57. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 115

58. *History* [online]

59. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 119

60. *Office for national statistics* [online]

61. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 119

62. *History* [online]

63. Howell, P. *Industry and identity*, p. 68

64. Ibid.

65. Dorling, D. *Distressed times and areas*, p. 45

66. *Vision of Britain* [online]

67. Dorling, D. *Distressed times and areas*, p. 49

68. Ibid., p. 50

69. Ibid., p. 49

70. Ibid., p. 53

71. Ibid., p. 51

72. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 324

73. Ibid., p. 325

74. *Vision of Britain* [online]

75. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 326

76. Ibid., p. 323

77. *Vision of Britain* [online]

78. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 351

79. *Vision of Britain* [online]

80. Dorling, D. *Distressed times and areas*, p. 53

81. *Vision of Britain* [online]

82. Ibid.

83. Dorling, D. *Distressed times and areas*, op.cit., p. 51

84. BBC History. *Thatcherism* [online]

85. Ibid.

86. Martin, R. L. op.cit., p.30

87. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 333

88. Youtube. *Margaret Thatcher The Downing Street Years part 1* [online]

89. BBC History. *Thatcherism* [online]

90. Ibid.

91. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 334

92. Oakland, J. op.cit., p. 164

93. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 352

94. Ibid.

95. Massey, D. A New Class of Geography [online]

96. Ibid.

97. Ibid.

98. Ibid.

99. Wasson, E. op.cit., p. 355

100. Massey, D. A New Class of Geography [online]

101. Ibid.

102. Dorling, D. op.cit., p. 12

103. Office for National Statistics. *North of England Economic Indicators* [online]

104. Ibid.

105. Dorling, D. op.cit., p.15

106. Ibid.

107. *Urbanisation in MEDCs* [online]

108. Office for National Statistics. *North of England Economic Indicators* [online]

109. Dorling, D. op.cit., p. 19

110. Office for national statistics. *North of England Economic Indicators* [online]

111. Dorling, D. op.cit., p. 20

112. Office for national statistics. *North of England Economic Indicators* [online]

113. Ibid.

114. Ibid.

115. Ibid.

116. Dorling, D. op.cit., p. 18

117. Ibid.

118. *Urbanisation in MEDCs* [online]

119. Wasson, E. op.cit., p.382

120. BBC: News. *Class segregation on the rise* [online]

121. Ibid.

122. Tihelková op.cit., p. 57

123. Martin, R. L. op.cit., p. 36

124. Tihelková op.cit., p.56

125. Martin, R. L. op.cit., p.28

8. Bibliography

8.1. Printed sources

British cultural identities. Editor Mike Storry, Peter Childs. London: Routledge, 1997, xxii, 350 s. ISBN 0415136997.

CHRISTOPHER, David. *British culture: an introduction*. 2nd edition. London: Routledge, 2006, xxiii, 292 s. ISBN 0415353971.

DAVIES, Norman. *Ostrovy: dějiny*. 1. vyd. v českém jazyce. Překlad Petruška Šustrová. Praha: BB art, 2003, 975 s., [32] s. obr. příl. ISBN 8073410907.

DORLING, Daniel. *Persistent North-South divides*. In COE, N. M. a JONES, A. (ed.). *The economic geography of the UK*. Los Angeles: Sage Publications, 2010, xvi, s. 12-28. ISBN 978-184-9200-905.

DORLING, Daniel. *Distressed times and areas: poverty, polarization and politics in England, 1918-1971*. In BAKER, A. R a BILLINGE, M. (ed.). *Geographies of England: the North-South divide, material and imagined*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, xi, s. 44-63. ISBN 0521822610.

HOWELL, Philip. Industry and identity, 1830-1918. In BAKER, A. R a BILLINGE, M. (ed.). *Geographies of England: the North-South divide, material and imagined*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, xi, s. 63-87. ISBN 0521822610.

JASON, Jason. *Language and class*. In THOMAS, L a WAREING, S. (ed.). *Language, society and power: an introduction*. 1st pub. London: Routledge, 1999, xx, s. 157-172. ISBN 0415187451.

LANGTON, John. *South, North and nation: regional differences and consciousness in an integrating realm, 1550-1750*. In BAKER, A. R a BILLINGE, M. (ed.). *Geographies of England: the North-South divide, material and imagined*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, xi, s. 112-144. ISBN 0521822610.

MARTIN, Ronald L. *Contemporary debate over the North-South divide: images and realities of regional inequality in late-twentieth-century Britain*. In BAKER, A. R a BILLINGE, M. (ed.). *Geographies of England: the North-South divide, material and imagined*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, xi, s. 15-43. ISBN 0521822610.

MIŠTEROVÁ, Ivona a Eva SKOPEČKOVÁ. *A search for identity*. Vyd. 1. Plzeň: Západočeská univerzita v Plzni, 2013, 185 s. ISBN 978-80-261-0323-3.

OAKLAND, John. *British civilization: an introduction*. 4th ed. London: Routledge, 1998, xx, 359 s. ISBN 0415165695.

PAXMAN, Jeremy. *The English: a portrait of a people*. London: Penguin Books, c1999, ix, 308 s. ISBN 0140267239.

SCRUTON, Roger. *O potřebnosti národů*. 1. vyd. Brno: Centrum pro studium demokracie a kultury, 2011, 87 s. Quaestiones quodlibetales. ISBN 978-80-7325-245-8.

THOMAS, Bethan a Daniel DORLING. *Identity in Britain: a cradle-to-grave atlas*. Bristol: Policy, 2007, ix, 297 s. ISBN 978-186-1348-203

THORNBORROW, Joanna. *Language and identity.* In THOMAS, L a WAREING, S. (ed.). *Language, society and power: an introduction*. 1st pub. London: Routledge, 1999, xx, s. 157-172. ISBN 0415187451.

TIHELKOVÁ, Alice. *The Changing Structure of Contemporary British Society*. In MIŠTEROVÁ, I. a SKOPEČKOVÁ, E. (ed.). *A reader in British studies: literature and culture in Great Britain I*. 1. vyd. Plzeň: Západočeská univerzita, 2008, s. 52-59. ISBN 978-80-7043-739-1.

TAYLOR, Peter J. *Which Britain? Which England? Which North?*, In MORLEY, D. a ROBINS, K. (ed.). *British cultural studies: geography, nationality, and identity*. 1st ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001, xv, s. 127-143. ISBN 0198742061.

WASSON, Ellis Archer. *Dějiny moderní Británie: od roku 1714 po dnešek*. 1. vyd. Praha: Grada, 2010, 429 s. ISBN 978-80-247-3267-1.

8.2. Internet sources

A vision of Britain through Time UNIVERSITY OF PORTHSMOUTH. [online]. 2009-2014 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/

Academia.edu: Regional Identity. PAASI, Aansi. *6. Regional Planning and the Mobilization of Regional Identity From Bounded Spaces to Relational Complexity* [online]. 2013 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: https://thegeographist.wordpress.com/2013/11/23/largest-cities-uk-population/

BBC: News, Stoke-on-Trent £1 houses: Hundreds express buying interest. *Stoke-on-Trent £1 houses: Hundreds express buying interest* [online]. 2013 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-stoke-staffordshire-22247663

BBC: News. *Class segregation 'on the rise'* [online]. 2007 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk/6984707.stm

BBC: History. KAVANAGH, Dennis. *History* [online]. 2015 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/thatcherism_01.shtml

BBC: GCSE Bitesize. *Urbanisation in MEDCs* [online]. 2014 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk/6984707.stm

Cultural and Social Geography. *Encyclopedia of Life Support system* [online]. 2002-2015, s. 1-13 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.eolss.net/sample-chapters/c01/e6-14-03-02.pdf

History Learning Site. [online]. [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/coal_mines_industrial_revolution.html

History: Industrial Revolution. *History* [online]. 2015 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.history.com/topics/industrial-revolution

MASSEY, Doreen. A new class of geography. *Marxism today*. 1988, č. 5, s. 12-18. [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.unz.org/Pub/MarxismToday-1988may-00012

Office for national statistics: Bussiness, Innovation and Skills. *North of England Economic Indicators* [online]. 2014, s. 1-8 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/regional-trends/regional-economic-indicators/north-of-england-economic-indicators/rep-north-of-england-economic-indicators.html

Office for National Statistics. *Office for National Statistics: Regional and local statistics* [online]. 2015 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/regional-statistics/index.html

The Geographist: UK: 1000 Largest Cities by Population. [online]. 2013 [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: https://thegeographist.wordpress.com/2013/11/23/largest-cities-uk-population/

Youtube. *Margaret Thatcher The Downing Street Years part 1* [online]. 2013, [cit. 2015-04-06] Dostupné z: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DJbe7K_mfQ

9. Abstract

The purpose of the bachelor thesis is to reflect regional identity in the United Kingdom, its influencing key historical event and indicators. Due to broad character and impossibility to cover the original topic all, it was narrowed and aimed at contemporary issue of the "North-South" divide which has become much discussed particularly in English academic, public and political milieu, especially under the government of Margaret Thatcher.

The thesis is divided into two main parts. The first, theoretical part is subdivided into three chapters which define identity and region, and provide a background of socio-cultural overview of the "North-South" divide. These chapters proceed mainly from printed sources such as academic articles and essays. The other, practical part is focused on four key historical events influencing and deepening the "North-South" divide; the current situation is described, as well. The differences are supported by six indicators proceeding predominantly from electronic sources comprising statistical data.

It is concluded that the Industrial Revolution was only a factor which deepened the problem as well as Thatcherism. The core lies in two different societies standing on different basis and the concentration of the service sector in London.

10. Resumé

Hlavním cílem této bakalářské práce je zobrazit regionální identitu ve Spojeném království, důležité historické události a ukazatele rozdílné regionální identity. Kvůli rozsáhlosti tématu a nemožnosti pokrýt jej celé, bylo zaměřeno na současný problém stupňujících se rozdílů mezi severem a jihem. Tento rozdíl začal být hojně diskutován zejména v akademickém, veřejném a politickém prostředí především za vlády Margaret Thatcherové.

Práce se skládá ze dvou hlavních částí, které jsou dále rozděleny na kapitoly. Teoretická část obsahuje tři kapitoly, v nichž je definován termín identita a region a dále poskytnut sociálně-kulturní přehled o rozdílech mezi severem a jihem Anglie. Tyto kapitoly vycházejí především z tištěných zdrojů, jakými jsou např. akademické statě a eseje. Praktická část je zaměřena na čtyři klíčové historické události, které nejvíce ovlivnily a prohloubily rozdíly. Hlavní ukazatele charakterizující současnou situaci vycházejí především ze statistických dat.

Závěrem je řečeno, že Průmyslová revoluce byla pouze klíčovou událostí prohlubující rozdíly, stejně tak jako vláda Margaret Thatcherové. Jádro problému spočívá v různosti společností a koncentraci dynamického sektoru služeb v Londýně.

11. Appendices

11.1. Appendix I – New towns in England between 1650-1801

LANGTON, John. *South, North and nation: regional differences and consciousness in an integrating realm, 1550-1750.*, p. 125

11.2. Appendix II – The dividing line

Social and spatial inequalities: how where we live matters [online].
[cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z:
http://www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/maps/nsdivide/http://www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/maps/nsdivide/

11.3. Appendix III – The density of manufacturing

A vision of Britain through Time UNIVERSITY OF PORTHSMOUTH. [online].
2009-2014 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/

11.4. Appendix IV – The density of mining

A vision of Britain through Time UNIVERSITY OF PORTHSMOUTH. [online].
2009-2014 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/

11.5. Appendix V – The density of services

A vision of Britain through Time UNIVERSITY OF PORTHSMOUTH. [online].
2009-2014 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/

11.6. Appendix VI – Table of indicators
DORLING, Daniel. *Persistent North-South divides*. [online]. s. 12-28. [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.dannydorling.org/wp-content/files/dannydorling_publication_id2881.pdf

11.7. Appendix VII – The density of poverty
DORLING, Daniel. *Persistent North-South divides*. [online]. s. 12-28. [cit. 2015-04-06]. Dostupné z: http://www.dannydorling.org/wp-content/files/dannydorling_publication_id2881.pdf

11.8. Appendix VIII – Poorest regions

Inequalities Briefing [online].
http://inequalitybriefing.org/graphics/briefing_43_UK_regions_poorest_North_Europe.pdf

11.9. Appendix IX – Voting patterns
2001 - THOMAS, Bethan a Daniel DORLING. *Identity in Britain: a cradle-to-grave atlas.*, p. 288

1997 - *A Nex Red dawn* [online]. 2015, 2015 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z: 1997
http://a-new-red-dawn.blogspot.cz/2014/01/lead-pollution-levels-and-conservative.html

2010 - LEWIS, Martin. Changing Geographical patterns in British elections.
GeoCurrents [online]. 2013 [cit. 2015-04-03]. Dostupné z:
http://www.geocurrents.info/geopolitics/changing-geographical-patterns-in-british-elections

Appendix I

Urbanization; New towns in the North and South between 1650 and 1801

▲ Top 20 fastest-growing towns
■ 21–50 next fastest-growing towns
● 51–100 next fastest-growing towns
◇ New towns
· All other towns

East Anglia

0   100 mls
0   100 km

■ 10 counties with largest difference in the proportion of population living in towns:
range = 23–44 percentage points, average = 32 percentage points

□ 10 counties with smallest difference in the proportion of population living in towns:
range = 1–7 percentage points, average = 5 percentage points

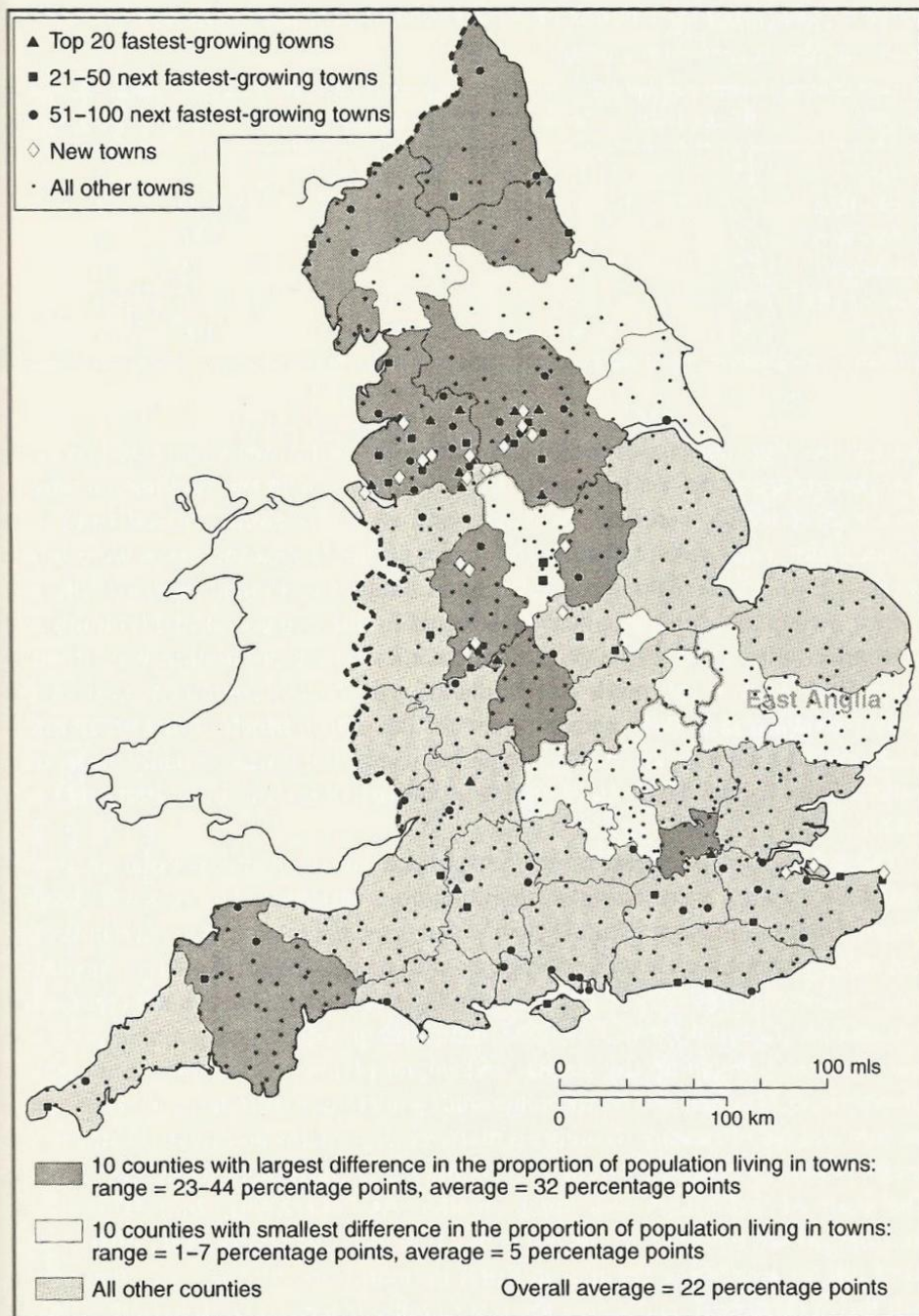▨ All other counties   Overall average = 22 percentage points

Figure 6.5 Urban growth, new towns and rates of urbanisation of county populations,
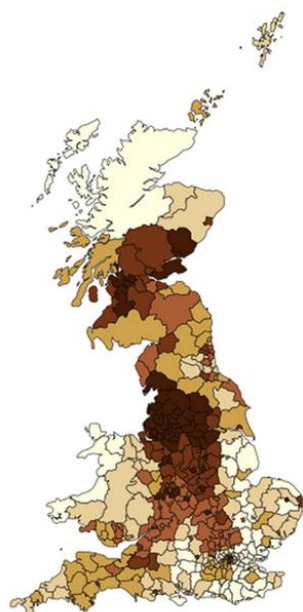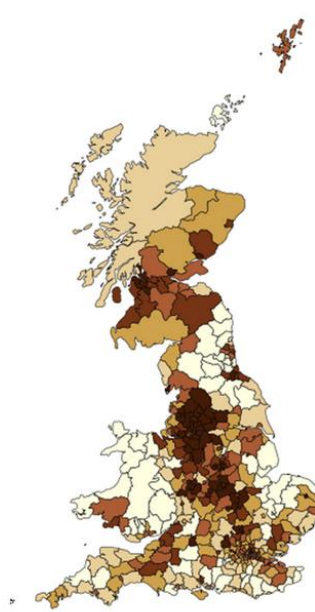1662/77–1801 (author's own database)

Appendix II
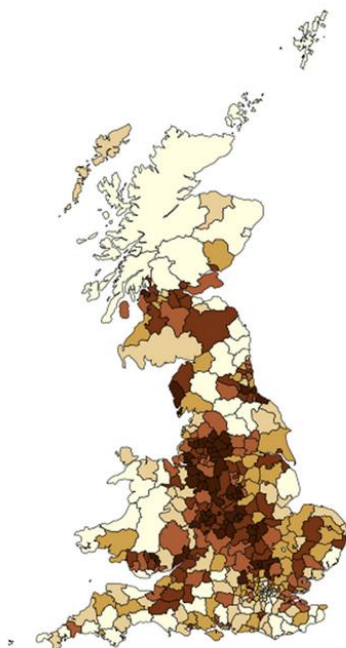
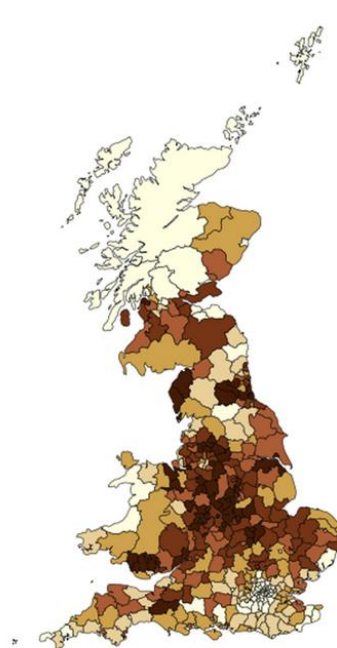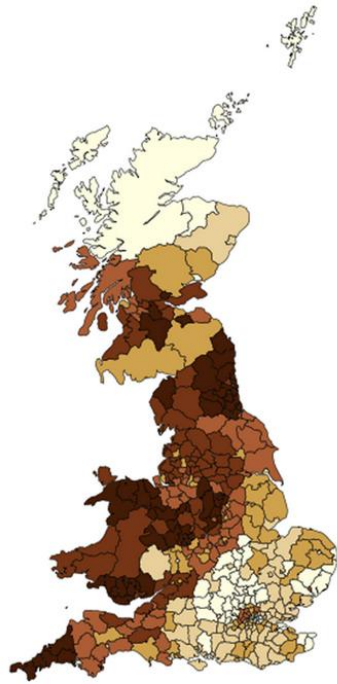The dividing line

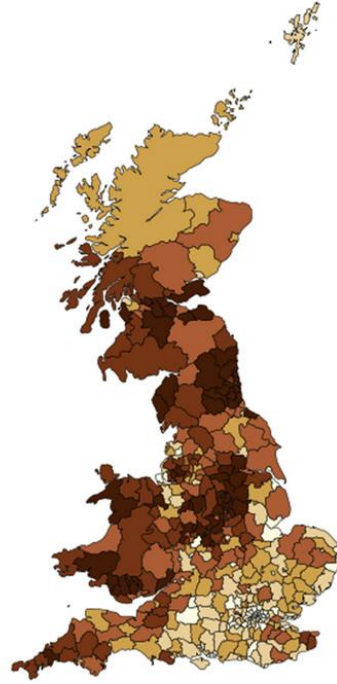# Appendix III
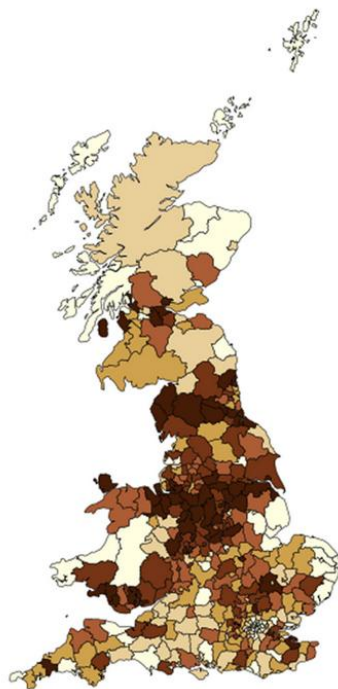
The density of manufacturing
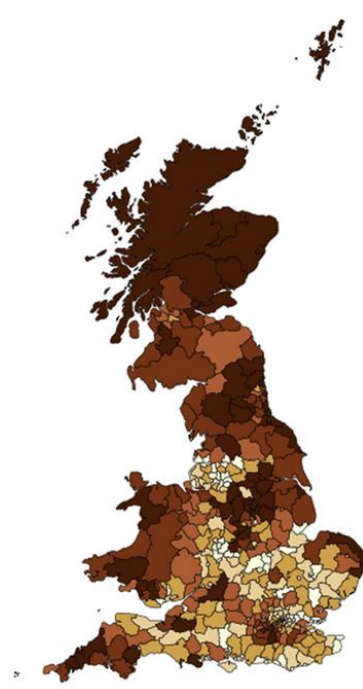

1841
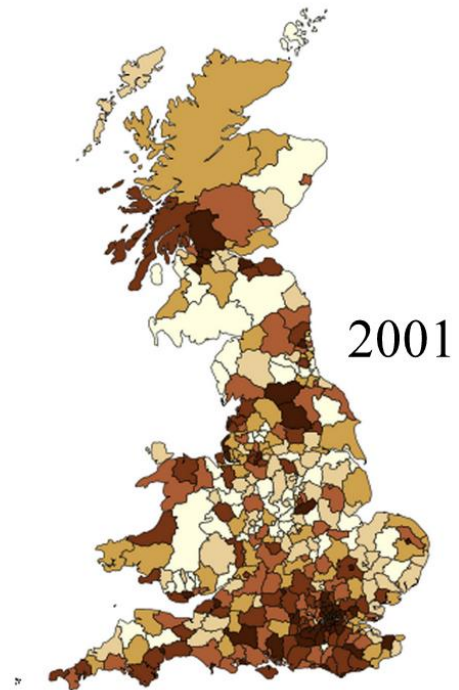
1931

1981

2001

Appendix IV

The density of mining

1841   1931
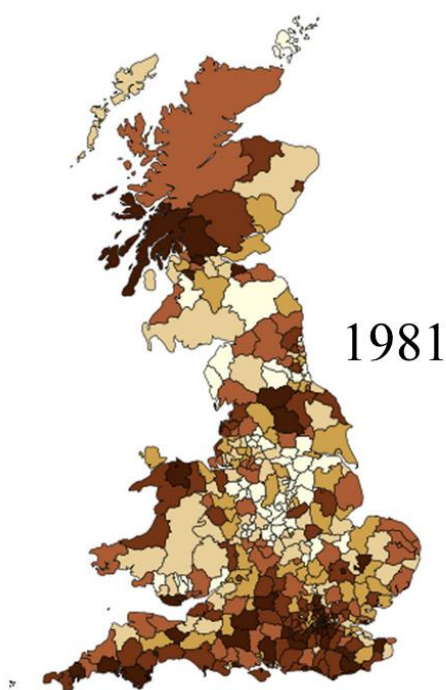
1991   2001

Appendix V

The density of services

1841

1931
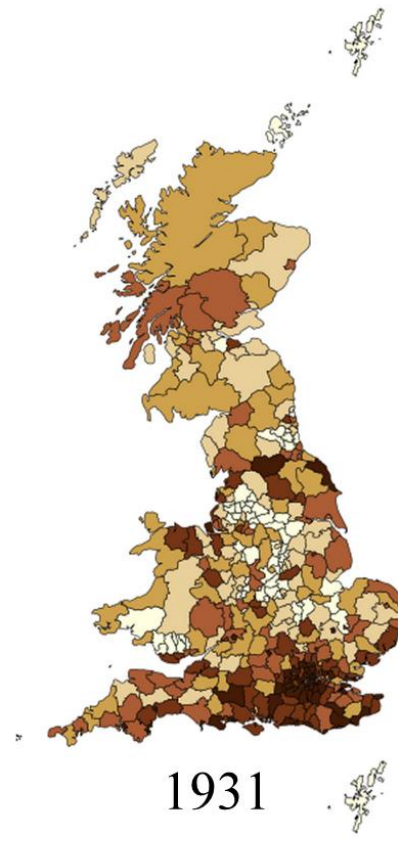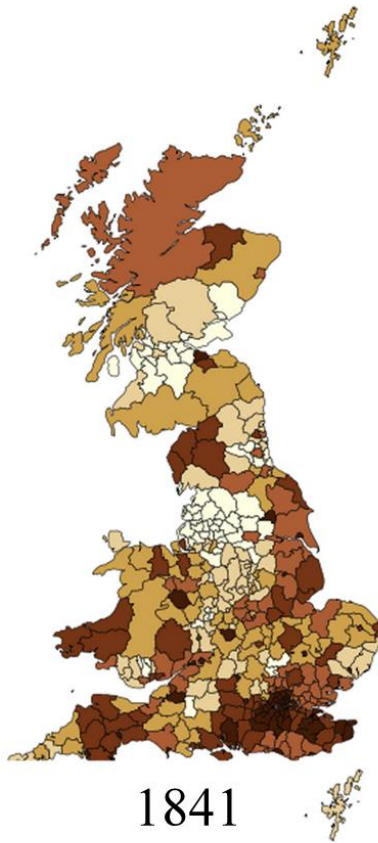
1981
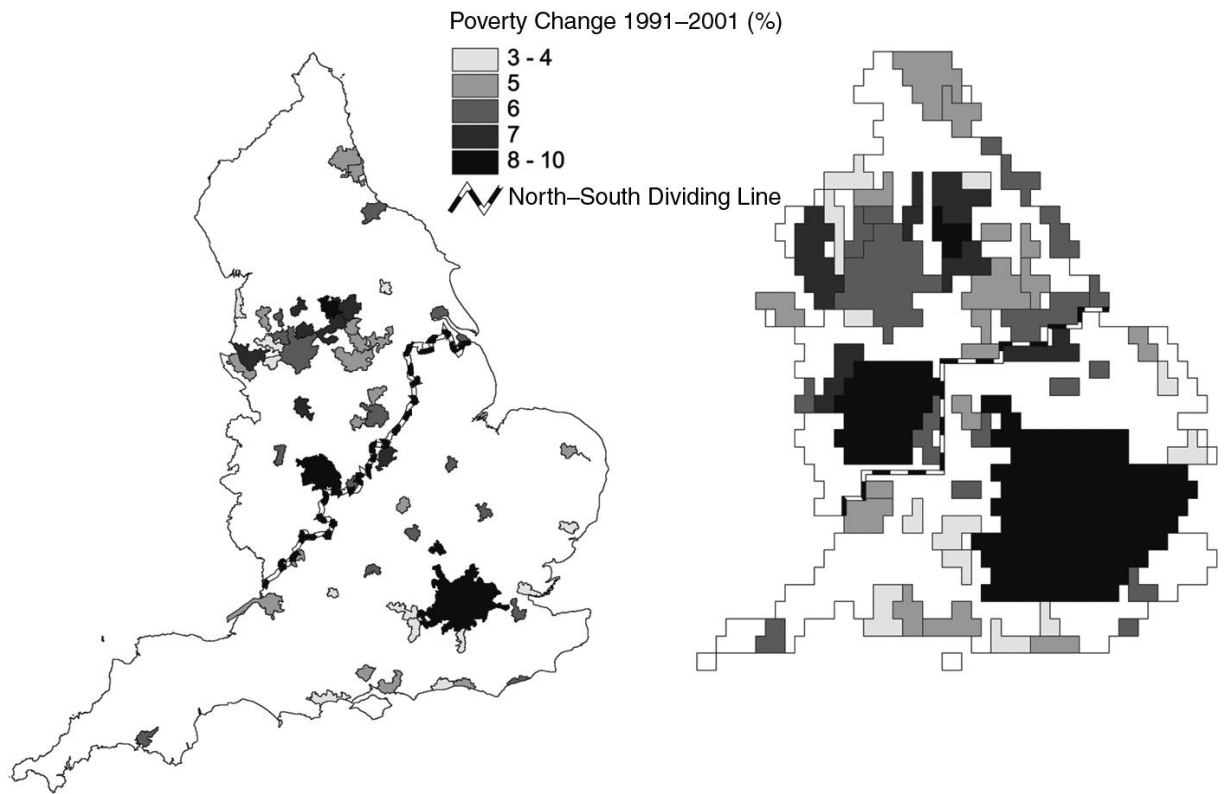
2001

Appendix VI

Table of indicators

Table 2.1 Key state of the city indicators, sorted by an overall score (and change measure provided in final column) divided into six leagues

Division	City	Life exp. 2001–2003	2001 per cent of adults with a degree	per cent working age claiming JSA/IS 2003	Percent of poverty by PSE 1999–2001	Average housing price 2003	Average score 2003	Change in score over time
Premiership	Cambridge	79.5	41	5.1	29	244862	82.3	5.6
	Aldershot	79.0	22	3.7	17	238991	81.9	4.6
	Reading	79.6	26	4.7	20	211794	81.5	5.3
	Oxford	79.2	37	6.1	30	255181	80.9	6.7
1st	Crawley	79.6	19	4.8	22	205506	79.8	4.7
	Bournemouth	79.7	17	7.1	21	214296	79.1	5.0
	York*	79.4	23	5.4	25	147513	78.2	5.4
	Worthing	78.8	16	6.4	20	186992	78.0	4.1
	Brighton	78.4	29	9.3	27	212361	77.6	6.8
	Southend	79.0	13	7.5	19	186481	77.6	4.2
	London	78.6	30	10.3	33	283387	77.5	6.7
	Bristol	78.9	23	7.7	25	160708	77.1	4.6
	Southampton	78.8	19	6.9	25	172585	76.9	4.9
	Norwich	79.8	18	7.5	27	138187	76.3	3.9
	Portsmouth	78.8	16	6.6	25	157145	76.2	4.0
	Milton Keynes	78.2	18	6.6	25	161625	76.0	4.2
	Swindon	78.2	15	6.6	22	150689	76.0	4.1
	Gloucester	78.4	16	8.5	22	141690	75.5	3.4
	Warrington*	77.9	17	6.8	23	119668	75.1	4.6
	Northampton	78.2	17	7.8	24	135871	75.1	4.1
	Ipswich	79.0	16	10.1	25	134514	74.7	3.5
	Chatham	77.7	12	7.7	23	142374	74.2	2.8
2nd	Preston*	77.7	17	7.2	26	97038	73.6	3.6
	Derby*	78.1	18	10.5	27	114280	73.1	4.2
	Leeds*	78.2	19	8.9	32	119262	72.8	3.1
	Nottingham	77.5	18	9.8	28	123663	72.7	3.4
	Telford*	77.9	13	9	27	115722	72.6	2.9
	Leicester	78.0	17	11	28	124812	72.6	2.3
	Blackpool*	77.2	13	8.9	24	103656	72.5	2.2
	Plymouth	78.1	13	9.8	28	118978	72.4	3.5
	Hastings	77.4	15	13.4	25	163128	72.3	3.7
	Luton	77.2	14	9.7	28	143698	72.2	2.0
	Wakefield*	77.5	14	9	28	110407	72.1	3.5
	Peterborough	77.5	14	9.5	28	123089	72.1	2.1
	Coventry*	77.8	16	10.9	28	111165	72.0	3.8
	Huddersfield*	77.2	15	8.7	29	97815	71.6	1.8
3rd	Manchester*	76.7	19	11.6	30	119569	70.9	3.6
	Sheffield*	77.9	16	10.4	33	96328	70.8	3.6
	Wigan*	76.5	12	8.6	27	88946	70.7	2.6
	Birkenhead*	77.9	13	12.2	29	95632	70.6	3.3
	Bolton*	76.8	15	10.4	29	89281	70.4	2.3
	Mansfield*	77.1	9	9.4	28	94749	70.4	2.0
4th	Grimsby*	77.6	10	11.5	28	77898	70.0	2.6
	Doncaster*	77.3	11	10.6	30	82267	69.8	3.0
	Birmingham*	77.4	14	12.8	33	122794	69.7	2.2
	Stoke*	76.9	11	10.3	29	78834	69.7	1.7
	Newcastle*	77.1	16	12.8	34	111220	69.2	4.1
	Barnsley*	77.2	10	10.8	32	79492	68.9	3.0
	Rochdale*	76.4	14	12.2	31	92523	68.8	2.5
	Burnley*	76.8	12	10.7	31	55879	68.7	1.5
	Bradford*	76.9	13	11.5	33	75919	68.6	1.4
	Middlesbrough*	77.1	12	13.1	32	81760	68.4	3.1
5th	Sunderland*	76.6	12	12.4	34	91322	67.8	3.2
	Blackburn*	75.8	14	12.7	30	70969	67.8	1.9
	Hull*	76.6	12	17.1	33	72374	66.0	1.4
6th	Liverpool*	75.7	14	18	36	87607	64.7	2.8

Note: cities in the North of England are marked by an asterix

Appendix VII

The density of poverty

THE TOP TEN RICHEST AND POOREST AREAS IN NORTHERN EUROPE

RICHEST

1. Inner London UK
2. Luxembourg Luxembourg
3. Brussels Belgium
4. Hamburg Germany
5. Ile de France France
6. Groningen Netherlands
7. Stockholm Sweden
8. Oberbayern Germany
9. Vienna Austria
10. Darmstadt Germany

POOREST

1. West Wales UK
2. Cornwall UK
3. Durham and Tees Valley UK
4. Lincolnshire UK
5. South Yorkshire UK
6. Shropshire and Staffordshire UK
7. Lancashire UK
8. Northern Ireland UK
9. Hainaut Belgium
10. East Yorkshire & North Lincolnshire UK

Appendix IX

Voting patterns

Winning party, General Election 2001
- Conservative
- Kidderminster Hospital and Health Concern
- Labour
- Labour–Co-operative
- Liberal Democrat
- Plaid Cymru
- Scottish National
- The Speaker

2010

Colour	Party
Red	Labour
Blue	Conservative
Yellow	Liberal Democrats
Yellow (Northern Ireland)	Alliance
Bright Yellow	Scottish National
Green (England)	Green
Light Green (Wales)	Plaid Cymru
Light Green (N. Ireland)	Social Democratic and Labour
Dark Green	Sinn Féin
Brown	Democratic Unionist
Purple	Conservatives and Unionists
Grey	Independent
Black	Poll delayed
White	Undeclared